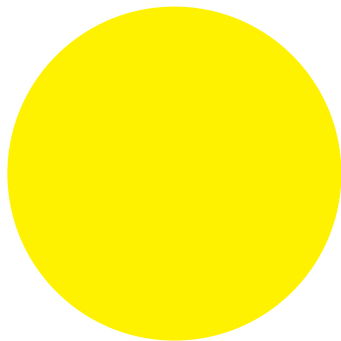


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Kurdish leader vows Iraqi soil will not be used against Iran

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Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (R) and chief of the Patriotic Union of Iraq's Kurdistan region Bafel Talabani meet in Tehran, Iran on September 15, 2026. *TASNIM*

Two straits, one war: three paths ahead for Yemen battlefield

By Mohammad Sajad Kashani
Regional affairs researcher

ANALYSIS
EXCLUSIVE

Even as the Middle East is engulfed in turmoil, the war in Yemen stands out as one of the longest and most complicated conflicts of recent decades one that began as a domestic political crisis, escalated into a multi-sided civil war, turned into a regional rivalry, and ultimately, with the Red Sea crisis and the 2026 Iran war, took on international dimensions. The postponement of the Persian Gulf Arab states' meeting with Iran over the Strait of Hormuz meant to tie Bab al-Mandeb's fate to that of Hormuz has produced the most complex configuration the region has seen since 2014.

The roots of the crisis trace back to the Arab Spring. The 2011 uprisings against then-president Ali Abdullah Saleh led, under the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council mediation, to Saleh handing power to his deputy, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, meant to steer a transition toward stability. Instead, the transition was plagued by weak institutions, corruption, economic crisis, and discontent among marginalized groups.

The Houthis or the Ansarallah movement, rooted in the Zaydi-Shia community of Saada province, capitalized on this discontent. In August 2014, after the government removed fuel subsidies, they organized mass protests that quickly turned into an armed uprising, allying tactically with forces loyal to Saleh previously their rival and forcing the prime minister to resign. Hadi fled to Aden and reclaimed his legitimacy, but as Houthi-Saleh forces advanced south toward Aden, he took refuge in Saudi Arabia in March 2015 and appealed for international intervention.

On 26 March 2015, Saudi Arabia formed a nine-country coalition – including the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Sudan – and, with logistical support from the US, UK, and France, launched Operation Decisive Storm to restore Hadi's government and drive the Houthis from Sanaa and other major cities.

Years of attrition, humanitarian crisis

From 2015 until April 2022, the region was mired in militia chaos and the war in Yemen settled into a grinding stalemate, while Al-Qaeda in Saudi Arabia and ISIS in Iraq also seized the opportunity to put down roots away from the spotlight.

With the outbreak of the 2026 US-Israeli war on Iran, the Houthis resumed attacks on 28 March 2026, with leader Abdul-Malik al-Houthi declaring his group's "hand is always on the trigger." A Houthi strike on Abha airport in southern Saudi Arabia in July 2026 again raised the risk of full-scale civil war. In December 2025, the Southern Transitional Council (STC) attacked government forces and seized Hadhramaut and al-Mahra, but the central government recaptured the areas in January 2026 and the STC effectively dissolved; the UAE withdrew its remaining forces. In September 2026, fighting between the Houthis and Presidential Leadership Council forces intensified in Taiz, al-Jawf, and al-Bayda, and with the capture of Mokha and areas around Bab al-Mandeb, the Houthis took most of the western coast, further raising the risk of all-out war. Combined with economic collapse, shrinking aid, and food insecurity, this has deepened Yemen's humanitarian crisis: over 22 million now need assistance, roughly 5 million are displaced, and nearly 18 million face food insecurity.

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Kurdish leader vows Iraqi soil will not be used against Iran

International Desk

Iraqi Kurdish leader Bafel Talabani said on Tuesday that Iraq and the Kurdistan Region would not allow their territory to be used to threaten Iran's security, as Tehran and Baghdad step up efforts to implement a bilateral security agreement and disarm armed groups opposed to Iran.

Talabani, head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), made the remarks during a meeting in Tehran with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, where he led a delegation of senior PUK officials, IRNA reported.

"Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq will never allow the territory of this country to become a haven for harming and threatening the security of regional countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran," Talabani said.

He stressed the need for cooperation between Iran and Iraq to implement their security agreement and disarm armed groups opposed to Iran.

Araghchi, referring to the activities of terrorist groups along the two countries' borders, also called for greater security cooperation to protect the frontier.



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (R) shakes hands with chief of the Patriotic Union of Iraq's Kurdistan Bafel Talabani in Tehran, Iran on September 15, 2026. **TASNIM**

The top diplomat said Tehran was ready to build up economic and trade ties with the Kurdistan Region, particularly the city of Sulaimaniyah, while strengthening security cooperation and efforts to combat terrorism.

Araghchi also warned of attempts to create divisions among neighboring countries.

"Our Kurdish friends and all countries in the region should be vigilant against false-flag tricks designed to create divisions among neighbors," he said.

Talabani described relations between Iran, Iraq and the Kurdistan Region

as historic and friendly, saying the PUK wanted to strengthen cooperation with Iran in political, security, economic and trade fields.

He called Iran "the strongest and ever-present supporter of the Iraqi people".

The issue of armed groups based in Iraq's Kurdistan Region has taken on added importance during the war the US and Israel waged against Iran in late February.

Iranian forces have repeatedly pounded US bases in the Kurdistan Region, as well as bases of Iranian Kurdish separatist groups and their weapons

depots, with missiles and drones.

US President Donald Trump has acknowledged sending arms to Kurdish separatist forces in the region to prepare for a ground invasion on Iran from its western border after the outbreak of the war. The planned attack never took place.

FM to visit China today

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi will visit Beijing this week and meet with his counterpart Wang Yi, China's foreign ministry said on Tuesday.

The two diplomats - who also met on the sidelines of

the BRICS conference in Delhi last week - will hold talks on Wednesday, the ministry said, as Beijing seeks to mediate in Iran's months-long war with the United States, AFP reported.

China is a top economic part-

ner of Iran, buying much of its oil output, and also an important diplomatic backer. The talks between their foreign ministers come just one week before an expected trip by Chinese President Xi Jinping to Washington, where

he will meet President Donald Trump.

The war in Iran will be a closely watched topic at that meeting, among other thorny issues ranging from trade to competition over artificial intelligence.

War on Iran damaged hundreds of US facilities, depleted key munitions: *Pentagon*



International Desk

The Pentagon's inspector general has released the first formal assessment of losses and operational disruptions caused by the war on Iran, reporting that Iranian strikes damaged or destroyed hundreds of buildings and structures at US military bases across the region and caused shortages of key munitions.

The special report, covering the period from February 28 through June 30, said Iranian strikes damaged or destroyed hundreds of buildings and structures at US bases in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, and Jordan, citing communications with US Central Command (CENTCOM).

It also acknowledged the depletion of key US munition stockpiles during the war, while noting that earlier attacks had destroyed critical military assets, including missile-defense radar installations.

The report said the Iranian strikes forced CENTCOM to alter the way US forces operate across the region, as the command "shifted personnel, assets and storage facilities" in response to attacks by Iran and allied forces.

Among the changes was the withdrawal of US Army medical evacuation helicopters from Iraq and Kuwait. As a result, "most medical evacuations have been carried out by ground ... to local treatment facilities," according to the report.

The destruction of the US Navy's regional hub in Bahrain also created "significant challenges" in establishing adequate naval bases and support ports, the inspector general said. The situation prompted the US military to turn the remote Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia into a sea logistics hub, extending resupply cycles to between 14 and 18 days.

The resulting intermittent shortages of supplies, along with disruptions to the US military's regional mail system, further complicated the deployment of American forces to the Persian Gulf in support of air raids on Iran and, more recently, efforts to blockade Iranian ports.

The report warned that some of the changes to the US military presence in West Asia could become permanent,

as American military and intelligence officials have discussed the possibility of long-term reductions in personnel and facilities across the region after the war.

The assessment, prepared jointly with the inspector general offices of the US State Department and the US Agency for International Development, also examined damage to US diplomatic facilities.

According to the report, Iranian retaliatory attacks caused some \$184 million in damage to US diplomatic facilities in West Asia. It did not provide an estimate of damage to US military installations.

In early March, two Iranian drones struck the US Embassy compound in Riyadh, causing extensive damage, including to a CIA facility located there. Around the same time, a drone targeted the US consulate in Dubai, damaging a utility building.

The US Embassy in Kuwait suspended operations completely in March after being struck and damaged by Iranian drones. It resumed emergency operations for US citizens in late June.

More than 600 attacks were reported against US facilities in Iraq, according to a senior State Department official cited in the report. The attacks caused approximately \$157 million in damage, making Iraq the costliest site in terms of diplomatic losses.

The report said that between February 23 and June 30, as many as 3,500 US diplomatic personnel were outside the region, while most US diplomatic posts were operating under authorized or ordered departure measures.

Within weeks of the war's outbreak in February 28, the State Department ordered the departure of non-emergency personnel and all family members from Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE as attacks on US diplomatic facilities intensified.

Most US diplomatic posts in the region remain under "restricted operations," meaning staffing has not returned to normal.

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0440032

First Announcement



NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity	UNIT
1	CASING, API GRADE J-55, SEAMLESS "BUTTRESS" THREAD, RANGE 3, (MAX LEN: 40.5 FT) AS PER API 5CT/ ISO11960, PSL: 2SIZE(OD), WEIGHT(PPF), AS SPECIFIED MARKING: COLD DIE STAMPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH API 5 CT NOTE: LEVEL OF INSPECTION: 1 (L.O.I: 1) "QCP/ MPS DOCUMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO REVIEW & CONFIRM" "ITP DOCUMENTS IS ESSENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION" 20 IN., 133 PPF	2000	LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no.1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 111,776/72 EURO or 192,491,465,472 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN. PAYMENT TERM IS C.A.D INCLUDING 25% ADVANCE PAYMENT, SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
Tel. No.: 061 341 23589 Fax No.: 061 34457437

PUBLIC RELATIONS:
www.shana.ir www.nisoc.ir <http://iets.mporg.ir> www.setadiran.ir



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON



Stop messing with the diesel supply.

RUSSIA

Strait of Hormuz

Iran's largest trade delegation in seven years in Russia, eyeing trade expansion



Economy Desk

Iran has sent its largest trade delegation to Russia in seven years, with more than 300 businesspeople from 18 provinces traveling to take part in two international exhibitions and discuss ways to expand bilateral trade, Iranian officials said.

The delegation is attending the

International Food and Beverage Exhibition in Moscow and the International Fisheries and Aquaculture Exhibition in St. Petersburg, IRNA reported. The businesspeople met on Tuesday with Iran's ambassador to Russia, the governors of Yazd and Bushehr provinces, and the heads of Iran's Fisheries Organization and Veterinary Organization to

discuss practical ways to boost trade between the two countries. Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali said Iranian businesspeople, who contribute to domestic production and exports, had demonstrated their commitment to the country in practice. Referring to regional and global developments, Jalali said there was now a valuable opportunity

to strengthen trade between Tehran and Moscow.

Jalali cited the full development and operation of the International North-South Transport Corridor and the transfer of Russian gas to Iran as projects that, he said, could sustain the two countries' trade relations for decades.

The National Iranian Gas Company and Russian gas producer Gazprom signed a 30-year deal last June to transfer Russian gas to Iran. Under the agreement, Iran will receive up to 55 billion cubic meters of gas a year through a new pipeline that Moscow plans to build across the Caspian Sea. Jalali also welcomed the establishment of an Iranian trade office in Russia by a private-sector company and expressed hope that the move would accelerate the expansion of trade between the two countries.

Strengthening provincial diplomacy

Yazd Governor Mohammadreza Babaei said at the gathering that the province's delegation to Russia was aimed at strengthening provincial diplomacy and described the foreign policy establishment's approach as a valuable initiative.

He highlighted Yazd's production

capabilities and said the province produces more than 900 types of goods, some of which are made for export beyond domestic needs.

Babaei said the province's capacity to produce 140 materials used in the construction industry, as well as greenhouse products, offered opportunities to expand exports to other countries, including Russia.

Private sector seen as key to expanding trade

Hamzeh Rostampour, head of Iran's Fisheries Organization, said that Iranian traders' role in meeting Russia's needs could provide an opportunity to support domestic production and the economy. "If we want sustainable trade relations with Russia, we must see a prominent role for the private sector," Rostampour said, adding that non-governmental operators were already leading the way in fisheries and achieving high levels of output in fisheries and aquatic products.

The deputy agriculture minister said the participation of more than 300 Iranian businesspeople from different provinces in the two international exhibitions in Russia, along with Iran's national pavilion at the International Fish-

eries and Aquaculture Exhibition in St. Petersburg, showed that producers and economic operators were actively supporting the country.

Food security committee

Vahid Salehi, deputy agriculture minister and head of Iran's Veterinary Organization, said the ministry had established a high-level advisory committee on resilience and policymaking in food security. He invited producers and other economic operators to join the committee and offer their proposals for strengthening the country's economy.

Several businesspeople raised concerns, shared their views and proposed solutions at the meeting.

During the trip, members of the large Iranian trade delegation will also hold talks with Russian government and private-sector officials on ways to remove obstacles and expand economic cooperation, in addition to attending the two international exhibitions. The International Food and Beverage Exhibition in Russia will be held in Moscow from Sept. 15 to 18, while the International Fisheries and Aquaculture Exhibition will take place in St. Petersburg from Sept. 16 to 18.

Somar border crossing with Iraq reopens after temporary closure

Economy Desk

Iran's Somar border crossing with Iraq in Kermanshah Province reopened on Tuesday after a temporary closure by the Iraqi side, with commercial activity and exports resuming, a local official said.

"The Somar border crossing, which was temporarily closed by the Iraqi side, reopened on Tuesday morning for commercial and economic activity," said Heshmat Rezaei, governor of Gilan-e Gharb.

"Exports of goods are currently underway through this border," he said.

Around 300 trucks carrying

export goods are now traveling through the Somar crossing each day, with major shipments including dried fruits, construction materials, tiles and perishable goods, Rezaei said.

Kermanshah Province shares more than 371 km of border with Iraq, and nearly \$3 billion worth of goods are exported through its border crossings each year, according to the report.

The reopening of Somar follows Iraq's closure on Saturday of several border crossings, including Shalamcheh and Chazabeh in Khuzestan Province, after a drone attack

on Saudi Arabia's East-West oil pipeline from Iraqi territory. The move led to a 25% increase in the cost of transporting goods, according to the report.

The governor of Khuzestan Province said on Monday that passenger terminals at the two crossings had reopened.

Meanwhile, Shahla Amouri, head of the Ahvaz Chamber of Commerce, said commercial activity at the Chazabeh crossing would resume at 6 a.m. on Thursday, based on an official notification from the Iraqi side. According to the Iraqi side, commercial activity and cargo transportation at Chazabeh

will resume at 6 a.m. on Thursday after technical measures are completed, operational procedures are organized and the relevant systems are updated, Amouri said.

Commercial activity at the Shalamcheh crossing resumed at 6 a.m. on Monday, and trade through the crossing is now underway, Amouri added.

The temporary suspension of commercial activity has caused heavy congestion of trucks carrying export goods bound for Iraq in the Chazabeh border area, she said. The trucks will remain at the border until the commercial section officially reopens.



Despite the temporary restriction, trade between Iran and Iraq has not come to a complete halt, Amouri said,

adding that activity at other border crossings between the two countries has continued around the clock.

BRICS summit opened new avenues for economic cooperation: Minister

Economy Desk

Iranian Economy Minister Ali Madanizadeh said on Tuesday that the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi, held on Sept. 12-13, had opened new avenues for economic cooperation, with Iran reaching understandings with member and participating countries on cooperation in various economic fields. Madanizadeh gave an account of his visits to Russia and India, IRNA reported. "At the BRICS leaders' summit and in the understandings reached at the meeting, we received very positive feedback from the leaders of BRICS member countries, as well as in meetings with the countries attending the summit,



where useful areas of cooperation in various economic fields were agreed upon."

Madanizadeh said another outcome of the trip was laying the groundwork for interaction with BRICS banks, including Russian banks. "These agreements will certainly help the private sector and the country's economy."

Before traveling to India, Madanizadeh made a several-day visit to Moscow for bilateral and multilateral consultations.

On the sidelines of his visit to India, Madanizadeh met with Dilma Rousseff, president of the New Development Bank (NDB), to discuss the institution's capacity to expand economic cooperation and finance development projects.

The talks covered the NDB's capacity to finance infrastructure and sustainable development projects, mobilize resources for economic plans and strengthen financial cooperation among member countries and emerging economies. The NDB finances infrastructure and sustainable development projects in member countries and other emerging economies through various financial instruments.

TENDER NO.: 08-38-0440049

First Announcement



NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity
1	PDC BITS 4-1/8 & 5-7/8 & 6-1/8 & 8-1/2 & 12-1/4 & 12-1/2 IN	435 NO
2	NOZZLES FOR PDC BITS	8090 ST

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 117,287/29 EURO or 200,388,500,000 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN. PAYMENT TERM IS C.A.D INCLUDING 25% ADVANCE PAYMENT, SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
Tel. No.: 061 34 12 3589
Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

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MT40FQ0518100

How data centres became one of America's hottest political issues

Growing hatred of facilities reshaping midterm elections



◀ Demonstrators take part in a protest at the Utah State Capitol to oppose the construction of the Stratos data center in Box Elder County, Salt Lake City, the US, on May 23, 2026. The proposed data center would be about 40,000 acres and is speculated to use 9 gigawatts of power.
 ● NATALIE BEHRING/GETTY IMAGES

PERSPECTIVE

A spectre is haunting America — the spectre of data centres. The computer-filled warehouses powering America's boom in artificial intelligence (AI) have become less popular than almost every other kind of infrastructure — even nuclear-power plants. Counties and states are rushing to wrap them in red tape or ban them altogether. In July, the Ratepayer Protection Act, designed to limit their impact on electricity prices, sailed through the committee stage in the House of Representatives. On August 31, Donald Trump weighed into the fractious debate, alarming Republicans facing tight midterm races. Local opponents of data centres would “end up being backwards and poor,” he warned, if they killed the “Golden Goose”. The backlash against data

centres is scrambling traditional political alignments, reshaping the coming elections and unnerving tech firms and investors. It is less clear whether it will slow down the AI juggernaut. For a sense of how quickly the politics of data centres has changed, consider three very different states: Illinois, Texas and Pennsylvania. In 2019, J.B. Pritzker, the governor of Illinois, signed a bipartisan law creating incentives for their construction. “In today's world,” he declared, “data centres are as critical a part of our infrastructure as our roads, trains and schools.” In Texas, Greg Abbott boasted as recently as last year that the state was “the epicentre of AI development” while welcoming new Google data centres. Josh Shapiro, Pennsylvania's governor, was similarly enthusiastic: “We are already all in on AI.”

In August, Mr Pritzker had a rather different message. Data centres, he told reporters, risked “higher electric rates, higher water rates or...environmentally unsound practices”. In June, he had unilaterally paused applications for the tax credits introduced in 2019. In Texas, Mr Abbott ordered the state's power utilities to audit all data centres seeking to draw electricity. The facilities “could endanger the reliability and stability of the Texas electric grid,” he warned. Mr Shapiro has also tightened the rules, giving communities more power to veto projects, while tarring his opponent in the gubernatorial race as pro-data centre — increasingly, a political term of abuse. A little over a year ago some polls showed majority support for local data-centre construction. By March, that had flipped: one Gallup poll found 71% op-

posed. Surveys by Annenberg recorded a 19-point swing in net favourability between February and June-July. An Economist/YouGov poll from the end of August put opposition at 63%. Data centres were viewed as bad for the country across every group of voters (see chart 1). Chicago illustrates the shift. Long before the AI boom, the city and its suburbs hosted scores of data centres, thanks to their position at the heart of America's internet infrastructure and relatively cheap electricity. Until recently, few people cared. Now, they are packing public meetings in an effort to stop development across the state. In August, hundreds turned out to oppose plans for a project on Chicago's South Side that, according to its developers, is not even a data centre. In the first eight months of this



In the first eight months of this year, American counties considered 409 moratoriums or similar measures, nearly seven times last year's total. In more than half a dozen states — including virtually every midterm battleground — more than a fifth of counties have passed at least one moratorium (see chart 2). “This is one of the toughest development issues I've encountered in my career from a land-use attorney's perspective,” says Tommy Mann of Winstead, a Dallas law firm. “The level of emotion associated with these projects is one that I have not experienced.”

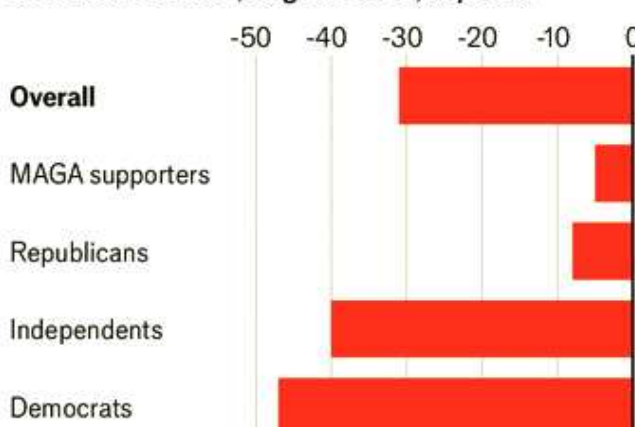
year, American counties considered 409 moratoriums or similar measures, nearly seven times last year's total. In more than half a dozen states — including virtually every midterm battleground — more than a fifth of counties have passed at least one moratorium (see chart 2). “This is one of the toughest development issues I've encountered in my career from a land-use attorney's perspective,” says Tommy Mann of Winstead, a Dallas law firm. “The level of emotion associated with these projects is one that I have not experienced.”

Too close to home

The real cause of the outrage is simpler. Americans are sceptical of AI, distrust the firms that build it and fear it will lead to job losses. But poll after poll suggests that what worries them most about data centres is their local impact — or, at least, what they imagine that impact to be. A recent Fox News poll found that 75% of respondents cited concerns such as energy use, water bills and traffic as the main reason they opposed a data centre in their area. Just 11% pointed to AI itself. Many of these concerns are overblown. Google, a hyperscaler, says that in 2025, its data centres and offices consumed around 10.9 billion gallons (41 billion litres) of water — roughly equivalent, it noted, to the annual irrigation of 73 golf courses in the south-west. Amazon, another hyperscaler, says its global fleet of data centres used 2.5 billion gallons last year, down by 2% from 2024 despite adding more facilities. In 2023, crop irrigation consumed 74 times more water than data centres, even after accounting for the water used to generate their power. Electricity is a different matter. The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, a federally funded research centre, estimates that data centres consumed 4.4% of America's electricity in 2023 and could account for between 9.5% and 15.3% by 2030. Their impact on consumers is less clear. Wholesale prices are being pushed up. That could eventually impact households. But the Electric Power Research Institute, a think-tank, estimates that the growth of data centres actually reduced average electricity prices by 6% between 2019 and 2024 by spreading the grid's fixed costs. In recent weeks, three big utilities

A rare point of consensus

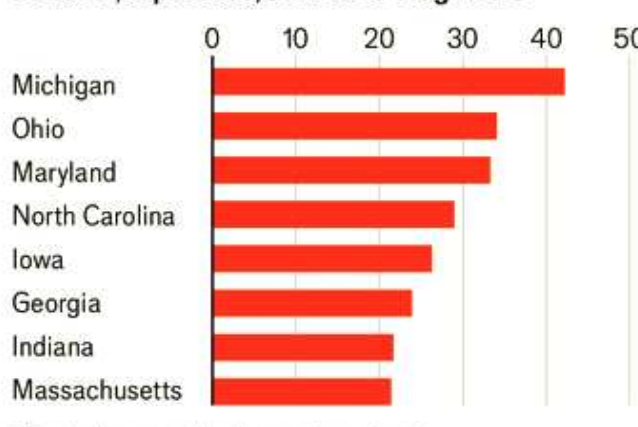
United States, net view of constructing new data centres*, August 2026, % points



*% responding “good” minus % responding “bad” for the country

Drawing the line

US, % of counties with data-centre moratorium actions*, top states, Jan 2023-Aug 2026



*Enacted, proposed and some since-lapsed or repealed halts on new data centres

— Georgia Power, Pacific Gas & Electric and Indiana Michigan Power — have all linked data centres to lower bills. Meanwhile, 30 states have approved or proposed “large-load” tariffs designed to ensure that big customers such as data centres pay for infrastructure upgrades. The question is whether public opinion is still malleable. A poll this month by Echelon Insights found that opposition to data centres could be reversed if respondents were told about just one potential benefit, such as lower property taxes or more spending on schools. “Voters are open to making a deal on data centres,” argues Patrick Ruffini, a Republican pollster who runs Echelon. They also seem open to bribes. Another poll, by the University of Virginia, found that most people

would accept a few thousand dollars to support a local data centre, with a median acceptable payment of \$10,000. Paying every resident of a median-sized American county would cost around \$240m — pocket change for the tech industry. It is already showering gifts on communities. Still, the backlash shows few signs of abating. “We’re going to see the same thing happen in 2028,” says Darrell West of the Brookings Institution, a think-tank. Governors who escape the issue this year will face it in two years’ time, he argues, when they come up for re-election. The politics of data centres is topsy-turvy in other ways, too. The backlash could prove especially awkward for Democrats in Illinois, where trade unions

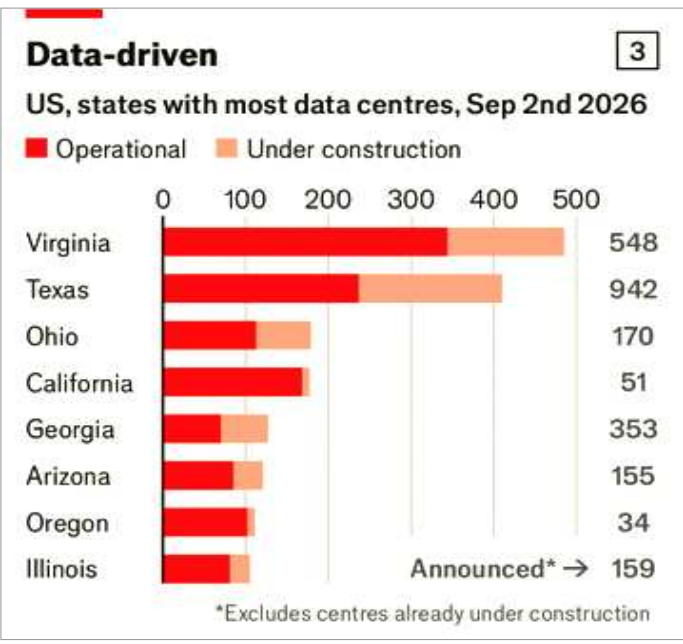
are powerful. Many unions are enthusiastic supporters of data centres. After Mr Pritzker’s decision in June, a group of union leaders issued a critical statement. The move, they said, “will send billions of dollars in investment and thousands of union jobs to Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio”. Tim Gillooley, a local union official, is even more emphatic: “These data centres are going to be built! Let’s get them built here.”

Path of least resistance

The growing opposition is sand in the wheels of the industry. Sales-tax exemptions for computer chips — the biggest cost of building a new data centre — remain in place in most states, including Texas. But they have been paused in others, includ-

ing Arizona and Ohio, or made conditional, as in Pennsylvania. That, along with satisfying local demands, will inevitably increase the cost of new data centres. Even so, a handful of states still wield outside influence. Texas alone has more data centres under construction than Georgia, Arizona and Pennsylvania combined (see chart 3). “Data-centre investment may simply flow to more permissive states. “Enough of these data centres are going to find a home in a community willing to work with them in return for the tax revenue and other benefits,” says Jack Painter, an energy analyst at Capstone, a strategy firm. As Mr Trump put it: “Let Data Reign.”

The article first appeared on The Economist.



What US midterms could mean for Trump's power

By Max Yoeli
Senior research fellow at Chatham House

OPINION

President Trump gathered Republicans last week for their first-ever midterm convention, and election campaigning is in full swing. The results of the November midterm elections will shape Trump's remaining tenure and the 2028 presidential cycle. As it stands, Democrats are projected to take the House of Representatives, while the Senate is a closer call. Either way, Republicans will likely lose the governing trifecta — House, Senate and presidency — that has enabled Trump's agenda and removed constraints on his authority. But that will not automatically result in durable guardrails or clear policy shifts. Even with control of one or both congressional chambers, many Democratic efforts to frustrate administration policies or impose oversight will run into structural hurdles. Instances of hard leverage are few, predominantly around funding the government, but they can be used to extract concessions — even as Republicans rally to defang them before the new Congress takes office in January.

Areas of potential Democratic leverage

With a majority in either or both houses, Democrats can block Republican legislative moves. This would likely push the White House to double down on its executive authority claims, including executive orders, emergency declarations and regulatory actions. But the inverse is not true. Even with both chambers, Democrats would struggle to drive policy through legislation. A war powers vote to curtail military engagement in the Persian Gulf or resolution disapproving of a foreign arms sale, for instance, would face presidential vetoes and Democrats would not have the supermajorities needed to overcome them. Another area of potential leverage is withholding approval for presidential appointments — especially for a Supreme Court or Federal Reserve vacancy. However, this only works if Democrats retake the Senate, which confirms nominees. An area where Democrats have



real leverage is fiscal matters — even if they only take the House. President Trump needs congressional action to fund the government and raise the debt ceiling, which limits government borrowing. Congress raised the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion in 2025 and the limit is now expected to be reached by mid-2027, after which Treasury Department accounting manoeuvres to avoid default — known as extraordinary measures — could buy an additional six to nine months. Failure to raise the limit in time to meet the government's debt obligations could trigger a calamitous market shock. How Republicans navigate the period after the midterms and before the new Congress takes office will determine whether the debt limit remains as a negotiating lever. Trump is pushing Republicans to use the budget reconciliation process — which requires only simple majorities in both houses — to lift the debt limit by another \$5 trillion through the remainder of his term, and secure funding including \$60 billion for defence and \$12 billion in aid for farmers hit by tariff retaliation and Hormuz disruption. But time is of the essence as reconciliation requires a budget resolution adopted by both chambers, so a Democratic House alone would rule it out. Ironically, Republicans themselves might provide the most immediate obstacle to Trump's wishes. Rapid debt accrual — some \$2.9 trillion of the \$5 trillion added to the debt limit in 2025 had evaporated by June — has made fiscal hawks like Senator Rand Paul unwilling to proceed without spending cuts.

Failure to extend the limit would yield a negotiation in 2027 or early 2028, with presidential primaries in sight and little incentive to compromise. Unlike the debt limit, reconciliation cannot be used for regular appropriations, the annual bills that fund federal agencies. As it stands, Republicans will need Democratic support to find a solution before funding expires on December 11. This negotiation will set the timing and parameters for starker confrontations in the new year, including opportunities to attach conditions for how funding is spent. But as the Trump administration asserts unilateral authority over spending, such conditions may have less relevance. For their part, Democrats must weigh their negotiation priorities and appetite for a potential government shutdown — during which the federal government withholds services, data and pay-

cheques — which will inevitably raise the question of blame.

Investigations and impeachment 3.0?

Any change of control in the US Congress would also precipitate widespread investigations, including into Trump family business dealings and the Iran war. However, the levers of Congress — for instance, the power to subpoena testimony and documents — will quickly run into enforcement challenges. This Trump administration is more capable of resisting scrutiny than the version Democrats confronted after retaking the House in 2018. It has used non-compliance, taken advantage of slow-moving court proceedings, and expanded claims of executive privilege to resist disclosing certain documents and communications. In August, Justice Department lawyers issued a non-binding advisory

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Presidential impeachment is another potential flashpoint likely to resurface. Congressional Democratic leadership may try to resist a third attempt to impeach Trump but pressure from individual members could build. Although any impeachment — whether of Trump or alternative targets like cabinet secretaries or judges — would energize the Democratic base, it could also invite criticism of overreach. Both oversight and impeachment can be costly and time-consuming but may fail to deliver concrete results.



Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games:

‘Composure, precision’ key to karate glory, Iran coach Zangeneh says

Sports Desk

Iran women's karate head coach Pegah Zangeneh believes her two kumite fighters will have to remain calm and make the most of their opportunities in pursuit of glory at the upcoming Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games in Japan.

The karate competition at the multi-sport event will kick off on Sunday, with Iran represented by Atousa Golshadnejad and Fatemeh-Zahra Saeidabadi in the women's contests.

Golshadnejad will be among the favorites in the -68kg class, entering the competition on the back of a glorious 2025 season, in which the 23-year-old sensation claimed the world and Asian -61kg titles either side of a gold medal at the Islamic Solidarity Games.

Young Saeidabadi, meanwhile, will look to build on her kumite team gold at June's Asian Championships when getting her -55kg campaign underway at the Toyohashi Gymnasium.

"The results and performances over the past year at the World Championships, Islamic Solidarity Games and Asian Championships have definitely raised ex-

pectations of the women's duo," Zangeneh told IRNA ahead of departing Tehran for the Games on Tuesday.

"Of course, we also have high expectations of ourselves, and I'm confident that if we work hard and remain motivated as always, we can make our beloved Iran proud. I just hope the Iranian Karate Federation will reap the rewards of its hard work."

Zangeneh was particularly upbeat about Saeidabadi, saying the former world U21 champion is in excellent shape and highly motivated.

"She is in very good form and, like at the Asian Championships, is motivated. She is eager to win the top prize in the presence of other high-profile contenders in the -55kg division," Zangeneh said.

"Fatemeh-Zahra has sharp and scoring kicks, and I hope she can use her skills to her advantage when she is in action," added the Iranian coach.

Although Saeidabadi has limited experience with the senior national team, Zangeneh said the youngster has already gained valuable experience at major international competitions.



"She may have less experience with the senior national team, but she has competed in the Karate 1-Series A, performed very well in the team kumite event at the Asian Championships and also won gold at the FISU World University Games in Russia, competing alongside senior-level athletes," she said.

"As someone who has extensive

experience at the Asian Games both as a competitor and a coach, I believe the atmosphere of this event is not particularly daunting and is no different from other competitions. There are even fewer competitors, and with composure and precision, the best outcome is well within reach for our representatives."

Zangeneh also explained the deci-

sion to move Golshadnejad, who made history by winning Iran's maiden women's gold at the World Championships last year but missed out on defending her continental title in June after suffering an untimely injury on the eve of the event, up to the -68kg division.

"We made this decision to prevent her injury from recurring and to



Iran women's head coach Pegah Zangeneh (c) is pictured alongside Atousa Golshadnejad (l) and Fatemeh-Zahra Saeidabadi during a training session in Tehran ahead of the Asian Games.

● RNA

avoid the need for her to lose weight. Her chances of winning a medal may even be slightly higher in this weight class," she said.

"Fortunately, she has adapted well to the new weight, and her injury has also completely healed. Several doctors, following multiple examinations, confirmed that her condition was completely normal and that she had reached full fitness."

Golshadnejad narrowly missed out on a medal at the previous Asian Games, falling short in the bronze-medal bout, and is now desperate to make the podium in Nagoya, Zangeneh added.

"Golshadnejad missed out on a medal by a narrow margin in Hangzhou and is now highly motivated to succeed this time around. The two athletes and I will do our best to repeat our performances of the past year on the Nagoya tatami."

AFC Champions League Elite:

Bakhtiarizadeh urges 'flawless' Blues to build on Al Sadd rout

Sports Desk

Esteghlal head coach Sohrab Bakhtiarizadeh called on his players to "build on the momentum" after the Tehran Blues produced a clinical performance to comprehensively defeat Al Sadd 3-0 on the opening day of the new AFC Champions League season in Basra, Iraq, on Monday.

In-form Albanian winger Jasir Asani again stole the show with a goal and an assist for the Persian Gulf Premier League outfit, with Saeid Saharkhizan and substitute Esmail Qolizadeh adding second-half strikes to wrap up the massive victory at the Basra International Stadium, which served as the Iranian side's home venue for the day.



"I congratulate each and every one of Esteghlal's extraordinary players. They were flawless today and made the fewest mistakes throughout the game.

"I also congratulate the passionate fans of the club. I am very happy that we were able to play well and defeat a great team. I hope we can build on this momentum in the upcoming games in the competition," said the Iranian. Asani capitalized on a defensive error to fire Esteghlal ahead nine minutes into the contest, when a wayward pass by Claudinho gifted the ball to the Albanian, who rounded defender Boualem Khoukhi and lashed the ball beyond

Qatari international keeper Meshaal Barsham. Saharkhizan doubled the scoreline two minutes after the break, latching on to a through ball from Asani before evading a tackle from Paulo Otavio to drill the ball through Barsham's legs into the left corner.

Iran U23 midfielder Qolizadeh put the match beyond Al Sadd's reach five minutes into stoppage time, slotting home Mohammadhossein Eslami's low cross.

Despite enjoying 75 percent of possession, the Qatari heavyweight barely created clear-cut chances against a well-organized Blues backline and even had Barsham to thank for pulling off a couple of superb saves to avoid further misery for his side.

"There isn't much to say; we played a very

We must address the errors that occurred so we can bounce back strongly in the upcoming matches," added the Romanian coach – a 2019 champion in the Asian elite club competition with Al Hilal. Esteghlal will resume the league stage with an away game against Al Gharafa of Qatar on October 12. With none of the four Saudi Pro League giants on the eight-game fixtures list, Esteghlal will look to build on the emphatic result in arguably one of its toughest tests in the West Zone to secure a second last-16 spot in three years.

Tractor off track

Unlike Esteghlal, fellow Iranian club Tractor endured a disappointing start to the competition, falling 1-0 to the UAE's Shabab Al Ahli in Dubai. Yuri Cesar's opportunistic 22nd-minute strike at the Rashid Stadium capped a well-rounded display by the Emirati side, which had two Iranian internationals in Sardar Azmoun and Saeid Ezzatollahi in the starting XI. Semifinalists last year, Shabab Al Ahli immediately edged possession, and their pressing seemed to have paid off in the seventh minute when Azmoun nodded home, only for his effort to be ruled offside.

Azmoun tried again in the 19th minute, charging down the right but finding no takers for his diagonal pass before Brazilian left back Rikelme rattled the bar a minute later from 35 yards out.

The home side eventually made the breakthrough midway through the first half, when Yuri Cesar, taking advantage of a fumble by Tractor captain Shoja Khalilsadeh, pounced on the loose ball on the left and steered his shot from just outside the six-yard box past keeper Parsa Jafari, who filled in for suspended Iranian international Alireza Beiranvand. While Tractor struggled to find its way into the opposing box, Mohammad Daneshgar came close to an equalizer for Javad Nekounam's side in the 79th minute, only to skim his header against the bar, while Mahdi Shiri saw his fiercely struck 25-yard shot two minutes later tipped over by Matheus Donelli. Next for Tractor is a home game against Qatar's Al Shamal, which will be staged at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Muscat on Oct. 12.



Esteghlal players celebrate a goal during a 3-0 victory over Al Sadd at the AFC Champions League Elite in Basra, Iraq, on September 14, 2026.

● AFC

poor match and failed to deliver what was needed to secure a positive result," said Al Sadd head coach Razvan Lucescu, whose side managed just a single shot on target and had Roberto Firmino's 57th-minute strike ruled out by VAR for a handball in the buildup to the Brazilian's point-blank effort.

"We faced a team highly determined to win, while we lost control of the game and were unable to find a way to stage a comeback.

Legendary Nemati hails Rahimi for reclaiming recurve territory



Sports Desk

Iranian para-archery head coach Zahra Nemati has praised Somayeh Rahimi for winning the women's individual recurve gold medal at the 2026 World Archery Para Series event, reclaiming a title that had been dominated by the legendary coach for 16 years. Rahimi secured a convincing 6-2 victory over her Chinese opponent in the final and also teamed up with Mohadeseh Babahabib to win a bronze medal in the women's recurve team event last Wednesday. "Because of the wartime conditions in Iran over the past year, we missed the opportunity to participate in many tournaments, some of which served as qualifiers for the Asian Para Games," Nemati told Mehr News Agency. "Therefore, the World Series event in India was a good opportunity for our athletes to test themselves in an official competition ahead of the upcoming showpiece in Nagoya." "Except for South Korea and Japan, almost all our Asian rivals were there. Our archers had a proper test ahead of the Asian



Iran's Somayeh Rahimi won the women's individual recurve gold medal at the 2026 World Archery Para Series event in Ahmedabad, India.

● WORLD ARCHERY

Para Games and registered decent results," she said.

"The individual recurve gold had been in my possession for 16 consecutive years. I won my last gold at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games. That was the last recurve gold for Iranian women, which is why I was thrilled to see Somayeh bring the title back home," said the archery great, who won three Paralympic gold medals during her illustrious career.

Nemati, however, stopped short of making any medal guarantees for her five-member team at the Asian Para Games, which will kick off on Oct. 18, but vowed that her team would give its best.

"I make no promise that we will definitely win medals in Aichi-Nagoya, but I promise that we will follow the same path and approach we have taken so far. We will give it our all against our rivals," she said.



Iranica Desk

In Sistan and Baluchestan Province, an ancient land, traditional arts have emerged from people's everyday lives and been passed down from one generation to the next, becoming an integral part of the region's cultural identity. These crafts are more than decorative forms; they tell stories of the history, culture, nature and lifestyle of the people of Sistan.

"Siah Duzi of Sistan" is one such valuable heritage. It is a delicate form of embroidery in which black thread is used on fabric to create distinctive patterns reflecting the culture of Sistan. The craft, which has long held a special place in the traditional clothing of Sistani women, is now the focus of efforts to revive and reinvent it. These efforts range from training and supporting artisans to incorporating traditional motifs into contemporary clothing designs and creating new opportunities for handicraft development. Siah Duzi is no longer simply a legacy of the past; it also has the potential to become a source of employment and creativity and a means of introducing Sistan's cultural

identity both nationally and internationally.

Maryam Rezaei, a handicraft artist, said she and her sister have spent more than a decade designing and producing clothing using Siah Duzi embroidery. She said they became familiar with the craft by chance after taking vocational training courses. It was then that they realized Sistan was home to a valuable and deeply rooted art form that had been largely overlooked for years.

One of the distinctive features of Siah Duzi is its reliance on the artisan's imagination, Rezaei said. Unlike many forms of embroidery that use predetermined patterns and templates, a significant portion of Siah Duzi designs are created directly on the fabric from the artisan's imagination.

The initial lines are marked on the fabric, she explained, while the rest of the design is developed by the artisan based on their creativity. Many motifs are also inspired by Sistan's natural surroundings, with each pattern potentially representing a symbol, meaning or story connected to the region's culture and environment.

Rezaei said Siah Duzi traditionally played an important role in

Siah Duzi weaves Sistan's history into contemporary fashion

Sistani clothing. In the past, the craft was used mainly on men's and women's garments, particularly around collars, cuffs and the lower sections of skirts, and was incorporated into both everyday and formal clothing.

Over more than a decade of activity, she said, they have produced between 500 and 1,000 pieces in various fields, including women's and men's clothing, traditional and contemporary garments, social and office wear, as well as decorative accessories such as earrings and necklaces.

Rezaei said she has received four national awards at various festivals. She has also participated in provincial and national exhibitions and registered her clothing design brand in recent years.

She added that they have established a fashion and clothing institute aimed at expanding specialized training in clothing design using Siah Duzi, enabling them to teach the craft to a new generation in a more specialized manner.

Speaking about her educational activities, Rezaei said more than 700 students have so far received training in Zabol, surrounding areas and nearby villages. Many of them now work independently and have established small businesses of their own.

Rezaei said that after realizing that even many young people in Sistan were unfamiliar with Siah Duzi, they decided to connect the traditional craft with the needs and tastes of today's generation. Their goal was to produce clothing that combines contemporary appeal and beauty with the identity and authenticity of Sistan.

"We did not limit our designs to traditional methods," she said, adding that they have preserved traditional embroidery

techniques while combining motifs and stitches to create a new style that maintains the identity of Siah Duzi while appealing to younger audiences.

The Sistani artisan also spoke about the difficulties of working in the field. Participating in exhibitions in distant cities, including Tehran, can be challenging, she said. Transporting products and traveling long distances is not easy for a woman artisan, but seeing people become familiar with Sistan's culture and art and receiving a positive response makes all the difficulties worthwhile.

having the potential to create sustainable employment, saying the craft could provide not only employment opportunities for women but also direct and indirect jobs for men.

If women are given opportunities to produce Siah Duzi products from home, she said, the craft could generate income for families while also creating jobs in supplying raw materials, sales, packaging and distribution.

Government agencies can play an important role in promoting the craft by supporting locally made products, Rezaei said.

be considered truly revived when it becomes part of people's everyday lives and is at least visible as a symbol in the clothing worn by the people of Sistan.

The ultimate goal, she said, should be to introduce Siah Duzi not only across Iran but also to global markets and enable its products to reach international consumers. Only then, she added, can it be said that the craft has become sustainable rather than merely being preserved as a relic of the past.

Rezaei concluded by pointing



● chn.ir

Rezaei said public interest in Siah Duzi has grown in recent years, with more people becoming familiar with the craft each year. However, she noted that market conditions have become more difficult over the past two to three years.

The decline in exhibitions and tourism, along with the country's economic and social circumstances, has affected local businesses, she said, adding that Siah Duzi has not been immune to these challenges.

Rezaei described Siah Duzi as

For example, Sistan handicrafts could be used as corporate and government gifts. Textile products such as handbags could also be produced, helping support artisans while reducing the use of plastic.

Although such measures may appear small, she said, sustained efforts could eventually create a large domestic and even international market while helping introduce Sistan's culture and art to a wider audience.

Rezaei said Siah Duzi can only

to the main challenges facing artisans in the field, saying access to raw materials is one of their biggest concerns. In Zabol, obtaining suitable and diverse threads and fabrics is very difficult, and the range of available materials is limited.

For Siah Duzi to flourish and become an economic opportunity, serious attention must be given to supporting artisans, ensuring access to raw materials, facilitating access to financial support and developing sales markets.

Lori lullabies preserve living oral heritage

Iranica Desk

Sometimes cultural heritage is preserved neither in museums nor in private collections, but through the voice of a mother holding her child in her arms and singing the child to sleep. "Lori folk lullabies" are one such form of living heritage and oral culture. The songs have been inscribed on Iran's National Intangible Cultural Heritage List and have carried the language, music, emotions and aspects of the worldview of the Lori people across generations.

At first glance, a lullaby may seem to be simply a song for putting a child to sleep. In different cultures, however, lullabies form part of a child's earliest exposure to language, music and the emotional atmosphere of the family. Before children can speak, their mother's voice and the rhythm of the words repeatedly sung to them shape

some of their first auditory experiences.

Among the Lori people, lullabies are more than simple songs. They have emerged from everyday life and have been shaped by the emotions, concerns, hopes and experiences of mothers and families. For this reason, their content can reflect the culture of the society in which they developed. Intangible cultural heritage experts have likewise emphasized this characteristic, describing lullabies as a means of communication between mother and child during a period when verbal communication has not yet developed between them.

In these songs, the mother does not merely invite the child to sleep; she talks to the child. She speaks of the child's future, expresses her hopes for them, talks about her own life and sometimes whispers her feelings of longing into the same melody meant to soothe the child.



● ISNA

In one example, a mother sees her child as a sapling that should grow and bear fruit, an image showing how nature has entered the emotional language of lullabies. Other lullabies refer to a father or family members who are away from home. Migration, military service, work, separation and waiting can also become themes in these songs.

These themes are what make it impossible to regard lullabies simply as pieces of music. Every lullaby is part of the era in which it was sung. If a community's life has been shaped by seasonal migration, traces of migration can be found in its lullabies. If work and animal husbandry have played an important role in daily life, signs

of them have found their way into the lyrics. And when longing for family and relatives has been particularly strong, the same emotion can be heard in the mother's song.

Lori lullabies are not uniform in their themes. Some are deeply emotional and maternal; others are closely connected to nature and rural life, while others contain traces of mythology, epic traditions, work, migration, separation, affection, love and family relationships. This diversity makes lullabies a valuable source for understanding the oral culture of the Lori people. The Lori language, meanwhile, is not merely a vehicle for expression in these songs; the language itself is part of the heritage passed on through lullabies. Before children learn many of the words of their mother tongue, they hear them in their mother's voice.

"Lori folk lullabies" were in-

scribed on Iran's National Intangible Cultural Heritage List in 2025 as an expression of the oral and musical culture of the Lori people.

Ata Hassanpour, director general of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts of Lorestan Province, said the inscription was aimed at preserving and introducing the intangible cultural heritage of cities and villages in Lorestan and passing valuable elements of local culture on to future generations.

Perhaps the most important characteristic of a lullaby is that it was created to be sung, not kept in a book. As long as a mother remembers it and hums it to her child, the heritage remains alive. But if the chain of transmission from mothers and grandmothers to the next generation is broken, some of the words, melodies and memories hidden within it will disappear as well.

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0540009

First Announcement



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NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity
1	CASING, API GRADE L-80, SEAMLESS, "VAM", "NEW VAM" THREAD, R-3 API 5CT/ISO 11960, PSL: 2, AS PER API 5CT/ISO 11960, SIZE(OD), WEIGHT(PPF), AS SPECIFIED MARKING: COLD DIE STAMPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH API 5CT, NOTE: LEVEL OF INSPECTION: 1 (L.O.I: 1), "QCP/MP5 DOCUMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO REVIEW & CONFIRM", "ITP DOCUMENTS IS ESSENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION", OD: ACC. TO CLAUSE 8.11.1 API5CT 10 ED. (TABLE 13 & 14 & 15), WT: ACCORDING TO CLAUSE 8.11.2 API5CT 10 EDITION MASS: ACC. TO CLAUSE 8.11.3 API5CT 10 EDITION (TABLE 16), ID. ACCORDING TO CLAUSE 8.11.4 API5CT 10 EDITION, 5-1/2 IN., 20 PPF	2,000LE
2	COUPLING, CASING, API GR.L-80, SML, ALL WEIGHTS, AS PER API 5CT/IOS 11960 AND NACE MR0175, COUPLING, CASING, API GRADE L-80, SML, ALL WEIGHTS, AS PER API 5CT/IOS 11960 AND NACE MR0175, TO BE ELECTRO PLATED, SIZE, THREAD AS SPECIFIED TO BE ELECTRO PLATED, 5-1/2 IN., (VAM-N.VAM-SEC)	30NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 32,180/14 EURO or 57,689,979,366 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

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