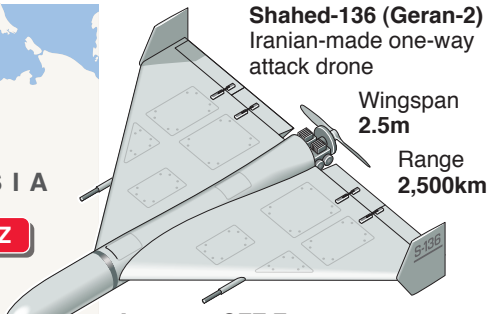
Russia expands massive drone factory

The Kremlin is expanding the world's largest Shahed-style drone factory – the Alabuga Special Economic Zone (SEZ) – amid a surge in weapons exports to Iran for its military



Caspian Sea: Russia reportedly sending drone components to help rebuild Tehran's military capabilities during Iran war ceasefire



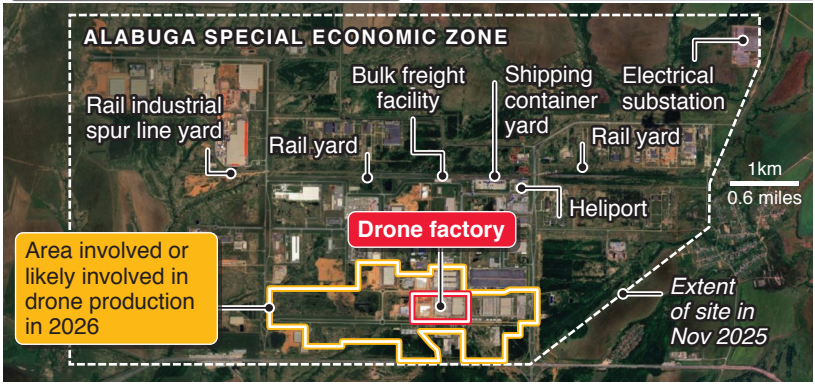
Shahed-136 (Geran-2)
Iranian-made one-way attack drone

Wingspan **2.5m**

Range **2,500km**

ALABUGA SEZ EXPANSION

- Some 340 hectares added to site in past year
- Satellite imagery shows freshly constructed hangars across northern sector. Production facilities and residential quarters extended in central complex
- Separate 450-hectare site set up south of SEZ – purpose unknown
- Factory – which employs workers as young as 15 – is accelerating its output of drones, which cost $20,000-$70,000 to produce
- According to Ukraine's military, Russia plans to boost production of attack drones to 1,000 per day



Sources: CSIS, The Telegraph Picture: Google Earth © GRAPHIC NEWS