

Massive Devt of Marshes
Planned

STATEMENT OF MARSHES PLANNED

By BAGHDAD OBSERVER IN ENGLISH 11 FEB 80 p. 2

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The Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform started during this year the execution of a plan aiming at the development of marshes areas at the southern area of the country.

This plan includes laying down the basic directions of agricultural development through organizing irrigation and drainage networks, establishing dams in order to make waters continuously available projects for lands reclamation and plantation in addition to the provision of guidance and sanitary services for these areas.

The plan provides prerequisites for agricultural products marketing, which are considered basic factors encouraging farmers for the increase of production in quantity and quality.

The plan includes also proposals for developing markets in the field of plant production and encouraging cultivation of

rice crop which is considered one of the main plant products on area of 80,989 doums for the cultivation of this crop, also cultivating vegetables especially Autumn tomatoes at Basrah governorate as environmental circumstances such as soil and climate are suitable there for this crop in addition to the need of local market for it.

The plan is aiming also at the development of animal resources and preparing agricultural animals, chickens, sheep and cows and finding varieties of good quality to meet needs of local consumption of meat and milk which will contribute by its role in the improvement of sanitary and living conditions.

The Ministry shall work on providing different varieties of fodders at moderate prices in order to cover animals needs for fodder in addition to preparing mobile labs to provide vaccination and veterinary services.

In the field of fish the plan is aiming at preparing environmental circumstances for breeding new varieties of fish.

The plan stresses the development of rural industries and raising their levels as they are considered a popular heritage, finding work opportunities and additional source for the family which contributes in combating disguised unemployment in order to raise economic and social standards of individuals and teaching them how to make handicrafts, employing disabled and old people in these jobs.

It is worth mentioning that there are 84 peasants cooperatives in which rural handicrafts are practiced, and that the number of workers in the agricultural cooperatives reaches 2280 persons of both sexes.

The cooperative movement at marshes area started in 1970 which covers most of the areas and their number reaches 340 (1-nd) specialised and combined cooperatives with 220474 members.

FEAT

BRILFS

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS--The allocations of the Investment State Organisation of Design and Industrial Construction million during the current year. Announcing this to the Chairman of the organisation said the investment programme implementation of 23 new projects including 21 for consuming materials, including projects for ready-made cloth and plastics. [Text] [Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 11 Feb 80 p. 2]

EDUCATION STATISTICS--During academic year 1978-1979, 37 from Iraqi Higher Institutes--37 with Ph. D. degrees, 294 with diploma degrees and 52 with degrees specialisations. The number of college graduates was 950 Arab students studying in Iraq. [Text] [Baghdad in English 6 Feb 80 p. 4]

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION--The Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction signed a contract with an international company for an express highway (N-1) at a cost of 1.2 billion dollars. The highway links Hilla and Diwaniya and comprises three lanes for coming in addition to petrol stations, maintenance services along the highway. This highway is one of the 1200 km express highway linking the major cities in addition to linking the country with Jordan. [Text] [Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 29 Jan 80 p. 2]

DONATION TO UGANDA--I.D. has given Uganda 50 million dollars in aid for the development of the country. The aid in 800 million dollars and his country would also send 200 million dollars and food to Uganda's Muslim Supreme Council. AN-SADAR ARAB SUPPORT COMMITTEE [English] 11 Feb 80 p. 2

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