

official. We have actually found that there are firms that have failed because of shortcomings of their management, like Alfina Food Company Ltd or al-Nasr Spinning and Weaving Company of Port Sa'id. High level commission have recently been drawn up to investigate the real

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Abu Zaghla: Actually that has happened. funds did not adhere to the required implementation. It came about as a result of delays in the implementation of the implementation which increases the project's cost. I have referred the decisions on this topic to change the managements of these firms.

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SUDAN

#### MINISTER'S REPORT ON AGRICULTURE

Khartoum SUNA in English No 4432, 17 Mar 83 pp 7-9

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Mar (SUNA)—Chaired by House Speaker 'Izz-al-din al-Sayyid, the People's Assembly yesterday unanimously passed a bill for 1983 on the Assembly's privileges and immunity. The bill was presented at the third reading stage.

On the other hand, the Assembly heard a statement by Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Dr 'Uthman Hakim, on the policy of his Ministry.

In his statement Dr. Hakim stressed that the soundness of Sudan's national economy depended on the soundness of the agricultural sector.

Speaking about the irrigated sector the Minister said his Ministry undertook a comprehensive study of this sector as early as 1980. He said the rehabilitation of New Halfa project and al-Jazirah, Blue Nile, al-Rahad and White Nile schemes were made against easy term loans of \$76 million offered by the World Bank and the European Economic Community (EEC).

Referring to the problem of decline and deterioration of production in this sector Dr. Hakim spoke of his Ministry's serious investigation into this issue since 1975. He announced that the investigations made revealed that the relations of production then prevailing were the cause of the decline of production and thus new relations of production were announced by the President in 1981. He explained the theme of the new relations of production which, he said, gave farmers effective incentives.

Doctor Hakim said his ministry would follow during the coming years a policy that would focus on pump-irrigated projects and rain-fed mechanized agriculture.

On the policies of his Ministry of Irrigation Dr. Hakim said his Ministry has concluded soil survey studies on Sarit Dam. He added that the economic and technical feasibility study on the project was finalized within the framework of the French protocol.

Speaking about the conventional agriculture sector Dr. Hakim said his ministry was giving this sector full care because it has a palpable contribution to national production. He said this sector's contribution to production during 1981/82 was: 26 percent of the overall production of sorghum, 100 percent of the total production of millet, 66 percent of the overall production of groundnuts and 71 percent of the total production of sesame.

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Doctor Hakim spoke of the Western Savannah Development Project and said the World Bank has provided \$38.2 million while the Saudi Development Fund has put in \$25.5 million in addition to \$2.7 million raised from local resources. He also referred to the Blue Nile Rural Development Project which was being implemented by the help of USAID at the cost of \$16 million.

The House Speaker transferred the Minister's statement to the Agricultural Production and Irrigation Committee the Economy, Plan, Supply and Industry Committee.

CSO: 4500/160

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