

The government will continue to focus on the needy in the education program. In order to avoid discrimination in the educational system, the ministry will establish rules for allocations to schools according to the number of students.

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Ministry officials argued that Housing Ministry officials took advantage of Agriculture Minister Simha Eirlich's trip abroad (for an operation) in order to attack them. Deqel conferred with Begin who told the parties to settle their dispute. Sharon and Shamir also argued that the Housing Ministry was jeopardizing settlement operations. It was decided that the Housing Ministry will provide the infrastructure while the Agriculture Ministry will continue the plan for settling 100,000 people. The two ministries will now work in harmony on new settlements. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Jan 83] 9565

CREDIT AID--Subsidizing credit and lowering interest rates will cost the state 33.2 billion shekels in the next fiscal year. Of this, 8.3 billion shekels are earmarked for subsidizing mortgages of apartment buyers eligible by the Housing Ministry for new and old loans. Transportation will be subsidized at the rate of 538 million shekels, insurance 21.1 billion shekels, and grants for past saving plans 3.2 billion shekels. The government is limited in its ability to insure rates and indexing. Thus, for example, the credit subsidizing in 1983 is mainly the payment of insuring rates and indexing prior to 1980. It will take the government 10 years to pay those obligations. At the same time, the state budget does not show the unbudgeted amounts given as a subsidy by the Bank of Israel through the production and export funds. The payment of state debts will reach next year 389 billion shekels, a real growth of 35 percent compared to the current year. Half of the sum pays the principal and the other half interest. There is a 52 percent growth in the payment of domestic loans and 2 percent rise in the payment of foreign loans. Most of the growth in the payment of domestic loans is the result of bonds issued to the public 10 years ago to pay for the savings plans, as part of the absorption program established by the government after the Yom Kippur War. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Jan 83 p 4] 9565

BROMINE INDUSTRY--Few Israeli products are at the top of world lists. To be the first, second or third producer of a given product means, besides profits, a good deal of prestige. In the production of bromine, Israel is in the second place in the world. According to the data of the U.S. Bureau of Mines for 1982, Israel is in the second place in the world in the production of bromine--16 percent of the total. The U.S. leads with 60 percent. Israel is followed by Great Britain--9 percent, France--5 percent, the USSR--5 percent, Japan--4 percent, others (Italy, Spain, Germany)--1 percent. In the future the bromine industry is planning to increase its share of the world market by emphasizing during the coming decade new products and expanding the marketing