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EGYPT

## SIZE OF NATION'S WORKFORCE EXAMINED

Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic No 699, 7 Jun 82 p 12

[Article: "Egyptian Workforce Contains 10.5 Million Workers"]

[Text] A study of labor conditions in Egypt which experts with the International Labor Organization have carried out in participation with the Ministry of Manpower and Training has revealed a number of new indices on the development of labor trends in the country.

The study confirms the fact that an increase has occurred in the number of employed persons in Egypt; the number of workers came to 10.5 million citizens in 1980 as compared with 6.9 million in 1960. In spite of this increase, a drop has appeared in the ratio of working people to the population; this came to 45.5 percent in 1980 as compared with 47.3 percent in 1960.

The study pointed out that the ratio of women employed is no more than 7.3 percent of the number of female citizens, an extremely low rate in comparison with other countries.

It pointed out that a drop has occurred in the number of people working in the private sector; their proportion comes to 66.4 percent of the total workforce in the country.

The study also pointed out that most people with educational credentials are concentrated in the administrative apparatus of the government, where they are not actually needed, and that 69 percent of labor lacking credentials is concentrated in the public sector.

The study stated that a decline has occurred in the ratio of agricultural workers to the total workforce, coming to 42 percent in 1976, while the number of people working in agriculture accounted for 53.4 percent of the workforce in 1960.

The drop in the number of people working in the building and construction field declined from 1.1 million in 1960 to 790,000 in 1976 in spite of the labor market's intense need for the services of this force.

At the same time, the number of people working in service areas doubled, totalling 2.6 million in 1980 as compared with 1.1 million in 1976.

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