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FACTORY BUILDINGS CONTRACTS AWARDED

Two multi-million-dollar contracts for factory buildings have been won by Japan's Kajima Corporation. The larger job, valued at about 10,500 million yen (\$44.1 million), calls for buildings to accommodate steel mills, power plants and other installations in the Alexandria National Steel Company's El-Dikheila complex.

Work is to be done in partnership with an Egyptian company.

Kajima has also won a \$ 1,000 million yen (\$4.2 million) contract from General Motors Egypt for a truck factory to be built at 6 October City. The plant is designed to produce 18,000 vehicles by 1989.

PLANS TO DEVELOP HYDROELECTRICITY

Swedish consultant Sweco is expected to present a report in the near future on plans to develop hydroelectricity in the Qattara depression.

If feasible, power would be generated by channelling water from the Mediterranean into the depression, parts of which are 150 metres below sea level.

Cost estimates have been put at about \$ 2,500 million, but the project would produce only an estimated 5 per cent of total power needs by 2000.

JAPAN TO FINANCE POWER STATION

Japan is to finance the construction of a \$ 500 million coal-fired power station in Sinai.

The 600-MW station will be able to generate enough electricity for all projects planned in the area, Egyptian Electricity Authority chairman Abdel-Hamid el-Sayed says.

It will use coal from mines in Sinai, where reserves are estimated at 50 million tonnes.

Finance is being handled by Japan's International Aid Agency, which has carried out a \$ 2 million, six-month feasibility study on the project.

The station's first stage is due for completion before 1987, the end of the five-year development plan, El-Sayed adds.