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DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The number of development projects that have so far been initiated and executed in Iraq has been rising steadily since the announcement of the 1981 investment plan.

Allocations for the investment programme during 1981 (which is the first year of the five-year plan) rose by 29 per cent as compared with allocations for 1980. Furthermore, allocations for the foreign trade plan amounted to ID 5,400,000,000, an increase of 26 per cent over the level of last year. Meanwhile ordinary budgetary allocations for 1981 were put at ID 5,025,000,000 against ID 4,657,000,000 for 1980.

The extent of construction and development activities can also be viewed of the number of projects that are currently being executed or awaiting final approval.

Some of these projects include :

- A ID 68.5 million contract for a 13 kilometre section of Baghdad's expressway system.
- A ID 40 million contract for the supply of rail carriages to the State Organisation for Iraqi Railways.
- A ID 109.5 million contract for the final sections of expressway number 1, comprising the 12-14 kilometre section between Rutba and the Jordanian border and the 13-90 kilometre stretch between Rutba and the Syrian border.
- A ID 20 million contract to build the 120-million brick-a-year works at Al-Suwaira. The total number of brick-works to be built in Iraq stands at 8, with a total value exceeding ID 400 million.
- A ID 45 million contract for the supply of power generation schemes.
- A ID 17 million contract to supply and install high-tension power cables.
- A ID 10 million contract for the first stage of the foundation works of Baghdad development projects.
- A ID 16 million contract for the supply of iron-moulds plants.
- A ID 10 million contract for the building of the Al-Sinak bridge over the river Tigris.
- A ID 30 million contract for the Haifa street redevelopment scheme.
- A ID 65 million contract for the construction of public buildings (offices, libraries, restaurants, meeting halls and sports centres) in Baghdad and other cities in the next three years.

Other giant projects which are under execution include :

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- A ID 1000-1500 million project for the Baghdad metro.
- A ID 500 million project for the Mosul dam.
- A ID 350 million system for Karkh water supply.
- A ID 280 million project for the construction of 18 centres for handicapped people.

Other projects, such as provincial road building, inter-city roads, bridges, port development, water and sewerage, railway networks, university buildings, etc., have already been started.