

- 7 points for urgent schemes.

Approved projects are those getting 65 points or more.

The plan, which was drafted by a committee headed by the Minister of Industry and Tourism, will come into effect immediately.

PREQUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS

The Education Ministry has invited prequalification for a \$122 million scheme to build 47 schools countrywide. Closing date for the scheme, which aims to add 34,000 school places, is 12 January.

The work is expected to be divided among international companies and grade 1 local contractors. No overseas firm will be allowed to build more than eight schools.

The programme, for completion by 1990, represents the sixth stage of the World Bank schools project. The bank is lending \$40 million for the scheme; \$76 million is coming from the government, which may get \$20 million from the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank. Supplier's credits will account for the final \$6 million.

Of the schools, 31 will be primary and the rest secondary; they will each be built over 3,000-5,200 square metres. Designs were done by Yarmouk University Consulting Office.

WATER SEWERAGE PROJECT

Tenders for two phases of a \$37 million water and sewerage scheme in Irbid are to be issued in January. The 180-kilometre sewerage network will be let in five packages; the water distribution system - designed to use new underground and surface water resources - will be awarded in one or two.

The scheme is being backed by the US agency for International Development (USAID), which is providing \$23.5 million. The government is financing the rest.

Design consultant and construction supervisor for both systems is the US' Roy Weston. It has subcontracted design work for the water system to another American company, Stanley Consultants.

Work on the scheme has started: a third US firm, Wallace International, is building a \$17.5 million sewage treatment plant in Irbid. Further phases will be tendered by March 1985, and the whole scheme should be finished by spring 1986.

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