

Team attends US int'l water talks

EGYPT has taken part in a recent conference on water, held in the United States. A paper on water problems in developing countries was presented by the Egyptian delegation headed by Mr Kamal Hegab, Chairman of the Greater Cairo Water Board. The paper dealt with planning for the future to meet the ever increasing demand for water.

The paper focussed on planning in so far as quantity and quality are concerned and the standard of the present performance of the Water Board and water stations.

The paper attracted the attention of delegates, said Mr Hegab who recently returned home, having attended the five-day conference. The delegates, he added,

enquired how Egypt benefits from the diverse technological assistance extended to it by various countries.

He said that the delegation explained that Egypt gets aid, loans and technology through a coordinated programme covering its own requirements. For instance, the US provides production stations; Japan supplies pipelines and reservoirs while equipment and new water treatment system are imported from France.

Moreover, he said, control systems used for water production and distribution are obtained from Italy and we resort to West Germany for technical consultation in research concerning subterranean water or in drawing or modifying maps.

It was a surprise, he said,

that representatives of the participating countries enquired about Rod el-Farag station and its current expansions, being one of the largest 50 water stations worldwide. They were told that the expansions will be completed next year and the station will have an operation capacity of 750,000 cubic metres per day that could be raised to 900,000 cubic metres.

He pointed out that conference was attended by 10,000 experts who discussed 260 research papers on water problems especially in developing countries. The treatment of potable water wastes, computer applications on water board economics and safety precautions in the use of chemicals in potable water, were underlined said Mr Hegab. GSS

Comprehensive research work at Dam Lake

THE new research ship of the High Dam General Authority which is equipped with up-to-date scientific and technical equipment will start a one-month scientific mission in High Dam and Nubia lakes in Egypt and the Sudan. The mission will study the sedimentation rate of silt at the bottom of High Dam Lake which stretches along the Egyptian-Sudanese border.

The mission will also take samples of water to determine the rate of silt concentration for studying the natural and chemical characteristics of the lake water and changes of weather conditions in the area. GSS.

ASWAN

The completion of tiled drainage projects in Kom Ambo, Nsar and Edifo districts in Aswan governorate is currently taking place. These projects will serve 45,000 feddans of cultivated lands and will help improve drainage at these areas, said Mr. Kamal Ali el-Haj, the Under-Secretary of the Irrigation Ministry in Aswan. The tiled drainage projects that cost LE 4.5 million will be completed before the end of this year.

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Major irrigation projects opened

THE Prime Minister, Mr. Kamal Hassan Ali yesterday called for rationalising the use of the Nile water, taking into consideration the economic use of water reserve in the High Dam Lake by one way or another.

The Premier was speaking within a tour in Sharkia Governorate to inaugurate several irrigation projects. Such measure, he said, comes on top of the state's interest in rationalising the use of the country's resources.

He described the projects he opened as a true reflection and embodiment of the state's agricultural planning under the five-year development plan.

He further stated that the

government sold 600,000 feddans to the citizens at reasonable prices provided that cultivation of this land take place within three years. In addition title deeds of 1,700,000 feddans of state-owned property are currently being handed over to the citizens, he said.

He explained that agricultural expansion is bound by possibilities of providing the land with the Nile water. The projects inaugurated today are therefore a vital achievement gaining access to the strategic aim of increasing the agricultural area, said Mr. Ali.

During his tour, the Prime Minister inaugurated three irrigation projects that cost

about LE 30 million. The projects aims at providing water for land reclamation in the governorates of Sharkia, Ismailia, Port Said, Suez and North and South Sinai.

Mr. Ali also inspected works of Salhia irrigation canal and the land reclamation projects in the area which covers 190,000 feddans. The Prime Minister was accompanied by the ministers of Reconstruction, Agriculture, Housing and Irrigation.

The Minister of Irrigation, Mr. Essam Radi, said that the inaugurated projects will help link the Suez Canal region with Greater Cairo through the Ismailia Canal, which will be suitable for navigation. — GSS

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