

## **Economic Development in the South Region of Iraq**

### **1: Basra Province**

#### **(1) Basra governor meets with Japanese Mitsubishi company's delegation':**

Source: NINA

Date: 12, March, 2014

The governor of Basra, Majed al-Nasrawi discussed possible contributions with a delegation from Mitsubishi company to achieve strategically important projects in the province.

Nasrawi said, "We called the company to contribute to constructing plants for water and electricity to solve the problems in these sectors, which are important to the Basra citizens." For his part, the head of the delegation said, " the company has been working for the rehabilitation of Hartha thermal station and with Shell Oil Company in the province.

#### **(2) Kuwaiti Company to Clean up Basra:**

Source: Alsumaria

Date: 07, March, 2014

The Kuwait National Cleaning Company has won 207 billion IQD contract for three years to remove trash from Basra city. The company beat other competitors from Germany, Lebanon, Turkey and Iran. The Governor's advisor for services, Mohamad Jaafar said: "Basra's Governor Majed Al Nasrawi reiterated on numerous occasions the importance of dealing with the company according to standards of quality, timely delivery and cleanliness instead of the weight of garbage collected and buried in landfills. The latter approach has proven to be a failure when it was adopted with Gefra, the Turkish cleaning company in 2010. "The Kuwaiti company has agreed to employ many of the existing municipal workers in providing the service, with the remaining workers re-allocated to "public schools and certain sanitary centers".

### **(3) THALES: to provide Integrated Security System for the West Qurna-2 oil field in Iraq:**

Source: globalsecuritymag

Date 13, March, 2014

Thales has been awarded a contract to provide an Integrated Security System (ISS) for the West Qurna-2 oil field development located 65 km northwest of Basra in Southern Iraq. This contract has been signed with LUKOIL Mid-East Ltd, a subsidiary of the Russian oil company LUKOIL.

Thales will design and deploy the Integrated Security System over the security perimeter surrounding the West Qurna-2 area, protecting LUKOIL Mid-East personnel and assets, including well pads, central processing facilities, and gas treatment facilities, produced water treatment, all related off sites and utilities, storage tanks and living camps.

Thales's Integrated Security System will include a number of innovative technical solutions as well as a command & control center to assure supervision and control of day-to-day security operations and comprehensive protection from operational incidents and threats.

Thales is also part of the international consortium that was awarded another contract by LUKOIL Mid-East Ltd at the end of 2013 for spare parts supply and maintenance assistance at the existing and future security installations of LUKOIL's West Qurna-2 oil field development.

"These two contracts are important milestones because they are Thales's first deal with LUKOIL, In addition, these awards continue to confirm that Iraq is an important geographical market for Thales."

## **2: Thi-Qar Province**

### **(1) To promote trade relations between the two countries. Italy Opens Business Center in Thi-Qar:**

Source: NINA

Date: 11, March, 2014

During the opening ceremony of The Iraqi- Italian Business Center, which was attended by Italian Deputy Foreign Minister George Yano and Chairman of the Thi-Qar Provincial Council

Engineer Hilal al-Sahlan to review bilateral relations, trade and economic levels and means of promoting the interests of the two countries. The Italian Foreign Undersecretary George Yano said: " We support the proposal of opening an Italian consulate in Thi Qar which will support the Italian companies in Iraq in general and in Thi Qar, in particular. Mr. Yano added that the main purpose of the Iraqi- Italian Business Center is to support the local government to activate relations between Italian and Thi-Qar society. To his part, the Head of the Chamber of Commerce in Thi-Qar, Mr. Abdul Razzaq Zuhairi pointed out that the Iraqi Italian business center will have an active role to promote the commercial movement in Thi Qar.

## **(2) THI-QAR Contracts with British Medical delegation:**

Source: iraqdirectory

Date 10,March, 2014

DG of Thi-Qar Health Directorate Sa'adi al-Majid said in a statement; "The province contracted with the British delegation to reduce women's death at the average who die in childbirth operations and also to reduce the overcrowding on the hospitals.

The province is considering to contract with a Russian delegation specialized in eye surgeries and to contract with a Turkish delegation specialized in conducting orthopedic surgeries" the statement concluded.

## **(3) Second phase of Gharaf oil field launch**

Source: aswataliraq

Date:06,March,2014

Thi Qar Governor, Mr. Yehya ala-Nasiri announced the launching of the second phase in developing Gharaf oilfield, run by Malaysian PETRONAS. The governor said, during his meeting with the PETRONAS Company delegation, that the first phase was completed and the second one will start to reach a production capacity of 230,000 b/d. He added that the company signed a contract to drill seven oil wells with a Chinese company in addition to other contracts connected with this oilfield. The current oil production varied from 80,000-100,000 b/d.

## **Political Development in the South Region of Iraq**

### **1 :Basra Province**

#### **(1) Australian Ambassador visits Basra, Maysan and Thi-Qar**

Source : Basra governor –Media office

Date : March 10, 2014

Australian Ambassador to Iraq, Lyndall Sachs discussed with Basra, Maysan and Thi-Qar Governors, the bilateral relations between Australia and the three Provinces and immigration by Iraqi citizens especially from the three provinces and how they can find a way for cooperation to prevent or minimize their immigration and cooperation between three provinces and Australian companies for investment in the energy and agricultural sectors, in addition to the education aspect. The Ambassador, encouraged the citizens of the three provinces to participate strongly in the upcoming election and not to lose the chance of participation in rebuilding Iraq.

#### **(2) Basra Provincial council Criticize Al Nasrawai 's office**

Source: basrahcouncil.

Date : March 06, 2014

The chairman of Basra Provincial Council Mr. Khalif Abedal Samed Khalif has severely criticized the performance of Basra governor office in relation to the selection of infrastructure projects and implementation of the decision of Basra PC.

The chairman of Basra PC added that the PC passed many decisions in the field of supporting different activities such as sports, youths, grants and others projects ) but the decisions were suspended because of the excuses of the governor which related to the lack of allocation for such projects .The Chairman of the PC elaborated that the projects which have been sent by the office of the governor got approval within 2 to 3 weeks by Basra PC while the decisions which have been taken by PC would not be implemented or take a long time for reviewing.

## **Security Development in the South Region of Iraq**

### **1: Basra Province**

#### **(1) Tribes Clash North of Basra**

Source : iraqinews

Date : March 07, 2014

Heavy clashes broke out near Basra between two tribes, blocking off the city's route to the north and isolating the West Qurna-2 project which is operated by Lukoil .In al-Qurna district, north of Basra city, violent clashes erupted among the Bani Malik tribe, Karmasha, Bani Mansour, Albu Bekheit and the al-Farij tribes for different reasons.

The fighting led to 7 dead and 20 wounded, according to preliminary reports, as well as isolating Basra from the rest of the country. On the other side, Basra province's security apparatus did not intervene to stop the clashes because the policemen didn't have enough equipment to stop the fighting and most of the Iraqi army regiments moved to take part in the operation of Anti – terrorist in Al Anbar. This situation pushed Basra governor, Mr. Majid Al Nasrawi, to send an official letter to PM, Noori Al Maliki asked him to increase the number of security forces in the province because the tribal fighting might be out of the control and increase terrorists' attacks to Basra.

On the other hand, South-eastern of Basra remained free from major incidents and have continued to avoid mass-casualty by militant incursions. Most assaults are usually connected to personal disputes, illustrated in small arms attack which killed an individual near his home in Basra.

In addition to that, the security forces have tightened the security measure near the headquarters of Da'wa party and the State of Law Coalition whose head is the Prime Minister, Nouri al-Maliki, in Basra, Maysan, Thi-Qar and Muthanna provinces.

The main reason of the security measure is that the followers of Al Sadr organized demonstrations to denounce the statements launched by Maliki recently and Da'wa party office might be attacked.