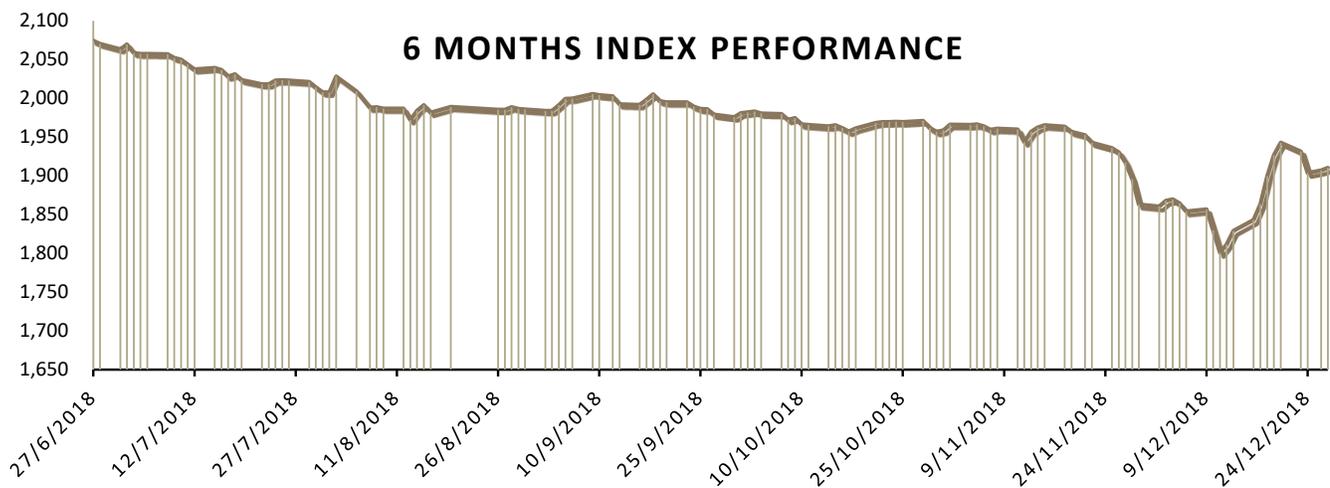


	Close	% Change	Year-to-Date (YTD)	Daily Volume (shares)	Daily Turnover (JOD)
AMMAN SE GENERAL INDEX	1,910.22	0.17%	-10.18%	18,299,908	149,193,595



Best Performing Companies

	% Change
ZARKA EDUCATION & INVESTMENT	7.30
BANK OF JORDAN	7.08
JORDAN WORSTED MILLS/THE	6.04
PETRA EDUCATION	5.46
PHILADELPHIA PHARMACEUTICAL	4.94

Worst Performing Companies

	% Change
AL EQBAL CO FOR INVESTMENT P	(5.48)
FIRST FINANCE CORP	(6.00)
MASAFAT FOR SPECIALIZED TRAN	(6.06)
REAL ESTATE & INVESTME/THE	(6.59)
SOUTH ELECTRONICS	(8.33)

Top Traded Companies by Volume (Shares)

AL EQBAL CO FOR INVESTMENT P	9,156,796
AL-MANARA INSURANCE	1,922,129
INVEST BANK CO	1,186,763
RUM TOURIST TRANSPORTATION C	526,530
AL SANABEL INTERNATIONAL CO	519,869

Top Traded Companies by Value (JOD)

AL EQBAL CO FOR INVESTMENT P	140,860,100
INVEST BANK CO	1,590,246
AL-MANARA INSURANCE	1,057,165
ARAB BANK PLC	823,132
UNION LAND DEVELOPMENT CORF	683,510

Macroeconomic & Corporate News

Government designates land for 100MW solar energy projects

The government on Wednesday announced designating 2,000 dunums in east Amman for the establishment of a 100-megawatt (MW) solar power project to support the renewable energy sector. Energy Minister Hala Zawati explained during a meeting with industrialists, in the presence of Trade Minister Tareq Hammouri, that the land lot will be allocated for lease against reasonable prices. Zawati estimates that 167 industrial facilities will benefit from the project. Aside to the overall benefits of boosting reliance on renewable energy, the minister explained that it also aims to reduce power costs for small- and medium-sized industries. Earlier, the Cabinet announced a three-year special-tax exemption on natural gas imports for industries. The decision to cut it from 7 to zero per cent was also aimed at supporting the industrial shift from traditional heavy fuels to natural gas, Zawati explained. It could reduce energy costs by 20 to 50 per cent, she underlined. As part of the underway effort to support the small industrial sector, the Cabinet unified the respective energy tariff for both small and medium industries, Zawati added. She continued to explain that the ministry had adopted a clear and comprehensive mechanism for the implementation of infrastructural shifts towards natural gas for industrial use. According to Zawati, the strategy was devised in cooperation with the Jordan Chamber of Industry, the Jordanian-Egyptian FAJR for Natural Gas Transmission and Supply Company, the National Electric Power Company (NEPCO) and the Jordan Industrial Estate Company.

New JD35m industrial estate agreement to house \$1b investments

The Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA) and Aqaba International Industrial Estate (AIIE) on Friday signed an agreement to establish the Quirah Industrial Estate, worth JD35 million over 2000 dunums, to host \$1 billion worth of investments. Chairman of the ASEZA Board of Commissioners Naser Shraideh said these investments will create more than 6,500 job opportunities. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported Shraideh as saying that the AIIE and its Chinese affiliate Xinxin Chamber of Investment requested expanding the designated land lot from 1,200 to 2,000 dunums. On the topic, Chief Executive Officer of the AIIE Sheldon Fink, who was present at the signing ceremony, noted that attracting investments is one thing, but housing them is something else, which is what the AIIE does, by providing investors with all they need.

Ministry announces plan to build 11 new dams across Kingdom

The Water and Irrigation Ministry on Wednesday unveiled a plan to build 11 new dams in 2019, raising the total number of dams in the country to 25. The new dams are part of a strategy to increase water storage capacity to 400 million cubic metres (mcm) and create new job opportunities, a ministry statement cited by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Five of the planned dams will be constructed in Karak, with a capacity of 23.5mcm, while two would be built in Wadi Araba with a capacity of 6.5mcm, in addition to a dam in Tafileh with a capacity of 3mcm, the statement added. The three areas are in the southern region of the Kingdom.

* Source: Bloomberg, Jordan Times, Zawya

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