

❖ Commodity prices, exchange rates and interest rates

Commodity prices, exchange, and interest rates	Price/interest	The change	Local and global financial market indices	Basis point	The change
Brent crude (\$/barrel)	67.215	0.57%	EGX30	35,731.83	1.02%
Gold (\$/oz)	3340.00	0.15%	SHARIAH	3,587.89	1.23%
The price of rebar is \$/ton	551.50	--	EGX70 EWI	10,693.56	1.06%
Aluminum ore price in dollars/ton	2576.50	0.51%	EGX100 EWI	14,323.57	1.15%
Exchange rates (USD/Egyptian)	48.6574	--	TAMAYUZ	17,186.87	--
Deposit	24%	--	S&P 500	6,408.00	0.08%
Lending	25%	--	NASDQ	23,321.50	0.01%
			Dow Jones	44,936.00	0.13%

Source: Central Bank of Egypt, Bloomberg, Egyptian Stock Exchange, London Metal Exchange, and Reuters

- ❖ Local and global economic news
- ❖ Sector news
- ❖ News of companies and institutions

- ✓ **Federal Reserve Minutes:** Inflation risks outweigh labor market concerns. Inflation risks outweigh concerns about the labor market, most US Federal Reserve officials said at their meeting last month, as tariffs fueled growing divisions within the central bank's interest rate-setting committee. Monetary policy officials acknowledged concerns about rising inflation and weak employment, but “a majority of participants considered inflation risks to be greater than employment risks.” **Al-Sharq Bloomberg**
- ✓ **Disputes between oil companies operating in Egypt and the government over the implementation of amendments to the value-added tax law,** which subjected crude oil to a 10% tax, escalated during a recent meeting with Deputy Finance Minister Ahmed Kojok. Oil companies, especially foreign ones, objected to being registered under the “reverse charge” system, which requires suppliers to collect the tax from non-resident customers and remit it to the tax authorities. The sources noted that the companies based their objection on international agreements signed with the government, which grant their guarantees against any new tax burdens imposed unilaterally. The sources added that the main problem is that VAT on crude oil is not deductible from production inputs and therefore represents an

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additional final cost that increases the financial burden on companies and negatively affects cash flows and profit margins. **Economy+**

- ✓ **CBE's net foreign assets rose by 3.8% in July to around USD 10.5 billion**, continuing to rise for the second consecutive month. Net foreign assets represent the deposits and savings held by banks in foreign currencies, which can be liquidated when the bank needs liquidity to meet its obligations, according to Central Bank data. **Economy+**
- ✓ **Chinese mobile phone manufacturers Coolpad and KXD plan to manufacture their products in Egypt**, investing EGP 100 mn in a six-month trial phase. The two companies, which are listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, plan to focus on mid-range phones, with up to 45% of components sourced locally. The companies will decide on the next phase after evaluating the results of the six-month trial phase, with further investments to follow to establish their own production lines. **Enterprise**
- ✓ **India's BDR Pharmaceuticals is in talks to establish a plant to produce biopharmaceuticals and oncology drugs in Egypt**. Future Pharmaceuticals, a subsidiary of SP Capital Partners, also participated in the discussions. Health Minister Khaled Abdel Ghaffar directed the parties involved to set a clear timeline for the project's implementation and to expedite the registration of the company's products with the Egyptian Drug Authority. **Enterprise**
- ✓ **GBCO has acquired the exclusive distribution rights for Chinese electric car brand Deepal in the Egyptian market and has already launched its first two models**, the S07 and S05. The company has opened a showroom for the Chinese brand in Mall of Arabia and will initially provide after-sales services through its center in Abu Rawash. **Enterprise**
- ✓ **The ministers of transport and industry and public business discussed on Wednesday ways to optimize the use of the assets of the Egyptian Iron and Steel Company (IRON) in Helwan and use them for industrial purposes in partnership with the private sector**. This came during an inspection visit by the two ministers to the Iron and Steel Company (under liquidation). Two days ago, Minister of Industry and Transport Kamel El-Wazir revealed proposals to convert the Iron and Steel factory in Helwan into a complex for textile industries and industries that feed into the ready-made garment industry, with the aim of attracting foreign investment to the complex. **Economy+**