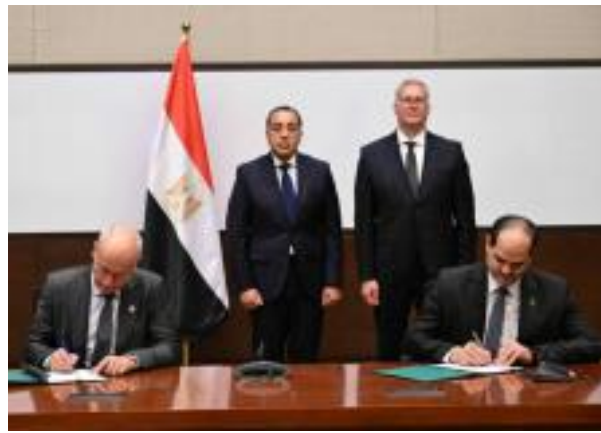




ENERGY

## Egypt, TotalEnergies sign MoU for natural gas exploration in the Mediterranean



**E**gypt's Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Egypt's petroleum sector and France's TotalEnergies to cooperate on natural gas exploration activities across a large area in the Mediterranean.

The signing ceremony was attended by Karim Badawi, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources; François Cortex, TotalEnergies' Exploration Director for the Middle East and North Africa; and Jérémy Soul, the company's Exploration Director for the Eastern Mediterranean.

The MoU was signed by Sayed Selim, Executive Managing Director of the Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company (EGAS), and Pascal Breant, General Manager of TotalEnergies in Egypt and Cyprus.

Madbouly reaffirmed the government's commitment to attracting further investments in exploration and research activities through incentives and facilities offered to international partners. He said these efforts are aimed at increasing investments in new discoveries and accelerating the development of existing fields, thereby boosting domestic production and reducing Egypt's energy import bill.

The prime minister added that his recent meetings with executives of international oil companies during the Egypt Energy Show conveyed clear assurances regarding the state's commitment to fostering an attractive investment climate for the energy sector, encouraging partners to expand their activities in Egypt's oil and gas industry.

For his part, Petroleum Minister Karim Badawi said the MoU establishes a framework for technical cooperation between both sides, including preliminary natural gas exploration studies and subsea technical assessments. He noted that the agreement is expected to pave the way for practical exploration activities in the region while helping reduce investment risks.

The minister welcomed TotalEnergies' return to gas exploration in Egypt, describing the partnership with the global energy company as a key outcome of the ministry's efforts to create a more attractive investment environment through incentives, diversified regulatory frameworks and the settlement of outstanding dues owed to partners.

ECONOMY

## Investment funds net assets surge to EGP 410 billion in Q1 2026: FRA



**T**he Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA), chaired by Islam Azzam, has issued its first report on the performance of investment funds operating in the Egyptian market during the first quarter (Q1) of 2026, revealing strong growth that reflects rising demand for investment funds as one of the key investment instruments in Egypt.

According to the report, the net assets of investment funds rose to EGP 410.6bn in March 2026, compared with EGP 316bn in December 2025. The increase was driven by the launch of new funds, growth in the investor base, and the diversification of available investment products.

The report showed that the number of investment funds operating in the Egyptian market increased to 187 in Q1 2026, up from 172 in last year. The growth reflects the continued expansion of the asset management sector and the broader efforts by financial institutions to offer diversified investment products tailored to different investor segments, particularly amid ongoing regional and global economic changes.

The number of investment fund certificates also rose sharply to 31.4 billion units in March 2026, compared with 20.3 billion units in December 2025, indicating growing investment awareness and a widening investor base.

Individuals continued to account for the largest share of investment fund certificates at 74.34%, while legal entities, including companies and institutions, represented 15.98%, underscoring increasing confidence in funds as regulated and relatively secure investment vehicles overseen by the FRA.

TRANSPORTATION

## Damietta Port receives its largest bulk cargo of 144,780 tonnes on YANG FAN vessel



**D**amietta Port received the Panama-flagged bulk carrier YANG FAN carrying 144,780 tonnes of bulk slag from China, marking the largest bulk cargo load handled by the port since its establishment.

Arriving from Singapore, the bulk carrier measures 289 metres in length and 45 metres in width, with a draught of 16 metres. The port authority stated that the successful reception of the deep-draught vessel reflects the readiness of the navigation channel and marine berths.

Port Authority Chairperson Tarek Adly Abdallah attributed the capacity to accommodate this load to recent development plans, which included deepening the navigation channel and berths, modernising marine services, and improving handling operations. He also noted the role of the authority's pilots, marine service crews, and mooring workers in executing the piloting, towing, berthing, and mooring operations for the large vessel.

The cargo unloading will be carried out using equipment belonging to Sisco Trans for Advanced Logistics, in coordination with the port authority and relevant entities to manage the handling and discharge processes.

The port's upgrades are part of a broader Ministry of Transport plan, to develop Egyptian ports and raise their operational and competitive capacity. The initiative aligns with state directives to establish Egypt as a regional centre for transport, logistics, and transit trade, supporting the handling of bulk and general cargo.



ECONOMY

## Monetary policy is a key competitive edge for Egypt after recent economic reforms: Investment minister



**M**inister of Investment and Foreign Trade Mohamed Farid said Egypt's monetary policy has become one of the country's main competitive advantages for attracting investors, following the government's handling of recent economic challenges.

Farid made the remarks during a meeting of the House of Representatives' economic affairs committee, chaired by Tarek Shoukry, as part of ongoing coordination between the government and parliament on policies aimed at boosting investment, exports and economic growth amid regional and global economic uncertainty.

He said the ministry's strategy is guided by presidential directives focused on improving the investment climate and enhancing the competitiveness of Egypt's business environment. These efforts, he noted, are intended to attract productive, value-added investments and support the expansion of Egyptian exports.

Farid said the ministry is implementing a broad package of structural reforms to improve the efficiency of the investment and foreign trade systems, stressing that sustainable transformation requires gradual implementation and cumulative progress rather than immediate results.

"The objective is to build a stable, transparent and efficient business environment capable of converting investment opportunities into operational projects efficiently," he said, adding that this would strengthen confidence among both domestic and foreign investors.

He explained that the ministry's strategy is centred on several pillars, most notably improving investment efficiency and modernising the foreign trade system.

Farid added that achieving economic growth rates of 6% would require increasing domestic savings to meet investment financing needs and reduce reliance on external borrowing. He said the ministry supports wider government efforts to raise savings rates as a sustainable source of investment financing.

He also highlighted the Egyptian economy's sectoral diversity, stressing the importance of preserving and expanding it, while pointing to the growing contribution of private sector investments to total investment in recent years.

ECONOMY

## Egyptian Exchange approves temporary listing of 4 new state-owned companies



**T**he Egyptian Exchange (EGX) has approved the temporary listing of four additional state-owned companies on the main market, as part of the government's ongoing IPO program aimed at expanding private sector

participation and maximizing returns on state-owned assets.

The newly approved companies include Misr Travel, Chemical Industries Development (CID), Egyptian General Company for Tourism and Hotels (EGOTH), and El Nasr for Fertilizers and Chemical Industries Co..

According to a statement issued by the EGX listing committee, the companies were granted temporary listings on the main market pending future share offerings within the next six months.

The move follows the EGX's approval in April of the temporary listing of six other state-owned companies.

The listings are part of Egypt's broader state ownership and privatization strategy, which seeks to improve corporate governance, enhance market liquidity, and attract both local and foreign investment.

Earlier this month, Hashem El-Sayed, Assistant to the Prime Minister and CEO of the State Ownership Unit, said the government had finalized an inventory of former public business sector companies ahead of listing 20 firms on the stock exchange. He added that 12 companies have already been listed, while preparations are underway for the temporary listing of eight additional firms.

INVESTMENTS

## CAPTEX expands sports manufacturing capacity amid Egypt's push to deepen local industry



**C**APTEX, the Egyptian manufacturer of sports equipment and supplies, is moving to expand its production capabilities as part of broader state efforts to deepen local manufacturing, increase domestic content, and

strengthen cooperation between the public and private sectors.

Minister of State for Military Production Salah Gamblat visited the company's facilities alongside Minister of Youth and Sports Gohar Nabil and Minister of Industry Khaled Hashem to review the company's latest manufacturing developments and future expansion plans.

During the visit, the ministers inspected CAPTEX's artificial turf production lines and reviewed different stages of the manufacturing process. The delegation also toured the company's showroom, which features a range of locally produced sports equipment and supplies, reflecting Egypt's growing focus on supporting domestic industry and reducing reliance on imported products.

Officials were briefed on the company's business strategy, including ongoing efforts to localise technologies and feeder industries required for the production of artificial turf and other sports-related products. The initiative aims to increase local content, improve the competitiveness of Egyptian-made products, and support the state's broader vision of building an advanced industrial base through cooperation between national institutions and private-sector partners.