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In Q I 2002, **gross domestic product** estimated to ROL 259018.6 billion, was by 3.1% higher in real terms as against similar period of 2001. Growths have been registered for all categories of resources: agriculture, sylviculture and pisciculture (+7.1%); industry (+3.9%), construction (+3.8%) and services (+2.4%).

By categories of uses, it is noticed the growth registered by gross fixed capital formation (by 4.8% more than Q I 2001) and for export of goods and services (+3.8%). It should be also pointed out the growth of final consumption of population by 3.3% as compared to Q I 2001, due to higher purchasing power of population income.

Industrial production achieved in April 2002 has been by 1.7% higher than previous month, in absolute volume. Manufacturing has increased by 2.9%, lower levels being registered by mining and quarrying (-3.6%) and by electric and thermal energy, gas and water (-4.3%).

In the first four months of 2002, industrial production has increased, as against similar period of 2001, by 3.7% in absolute volume due to 4.9% growth in manufacturing. By main industrial groups, this period, the production has increased by 10.2% for current use goods, by 4.6% for durable goods, by 2.2% for capital goods and by 0.2% for intermediate goods. Falls have been registered only for the production of energy goods (-1.3%).

The value of stocks of finished products in industry, on 30. IV. 2002, was ROL 40197 billion current prices, representing 35.5% of April resources, being situated about at the same level as the end of March 2002 (35.6%) and below the levels of January and February.

In March 2002, total turnover volume¹⁾ of enterprises having industry as their main activity has been, in real terms, by 10.8% higher than in February 2002, being registered growths in manufacturing (+15.2%) and in mining and quarrying (+9.3%) and a fall in electric and thermal energy, gas and water (-3.4%).

In the first four months of 2002, **the main resources of primary energy** have amounted to 13336.6 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾, of which 8819.2 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾ of domestic production. In comparison with similar period of previous year, the resources of primary energy have registered a fall (-4.4%), owing to the considerable fall of imports (-12.5%). Domestic production has registered close quotas as

¹⁾ Total turnover comes both from main activity, and from secondary activities of industrial enterprises.

²⁾ Conventional fuel with calorific power of 10.000 kcal /kg .

similar period of last year (+0.3%).

This period, the production of electric energy has accounted for 19048.0 million kWh, increasing by 0.8% as against the first four months of 2001. Electric energy obtained in hydro-power stations has represented 27.2% of total (by 24.4% more than similar period of last year).

In **agriculture**, according to the current data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests on May 23, 2002, for spring crops, the sowings were performed on 5524.4 thousand hectares, representing 98.3% of programmed area for this period.

The livestock, existent at the end of April 2002, as against the same date of previous year, was by 12.2% higher for sheep and goats, by 2.0% for pigs and by 0.7% for cattle.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment at end of April 2002, **the number of registered unemployed** was 1069.7 thousand persons, by 187.7 thousands less than previous month. In comparison with the same month of 2001, the number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment is by 121.3 thousands higher.

The same month, women represented 44.7% of total number of registered unemployed.

In April 2002, **registered unemployment rate** was 11.1% as against total active civil population (13.0% in March 2002 and 9.8% in April 2001). The same month, for women, unemployment rate was 10.3% (11.9% in March 2002 and 9.4% in April 2001).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the following counties: Vaslui (20.9%), Neamț (17.6%), Mehedinți (16.8%), Ialomița (16.6%), Iași (16.4%), Covasna (15.8%), Caraș - Severin (15.4%), Hunedoara (15.2%), Buzău (15.1%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in Bucharest Municipality (4.4%) and in the counties Bihor (4.2%), Satu Mare (5.7%) and Ilfov (6.1%).

Investments achieved in the economy in Q I 2002 have amounted to ROL 27085.8 billion, in real terms, by 2.8% more than similar period of 2001. Investments in construction works have represented 37.4% of total, being situated at a close level as the same period of 2001. Investments in equipment and means of transport, accounting for ROL 13531.7 billion, have represented 50.0% of total, by 5.5% more than Q I 2001.

Of total investments, 63.8% have been registered in private majority sector, by 13.4% more than similar quarter of 2001.

During 1.I.-31.III.2002, the value of **construction works** has amounted to ROL 16219.0 billion, by 3.2% more than similar period of last year, 91.6% being carried out by private majority sector.

In Q I 2002, the number of finished dwellings was 3188, by 267 dwellings less than period 1.I.-31.III.2001. The highest weight is still held by the dwellings built from the population funds (92.8%).

In Q I 2002, **the average number of pensioners** was 6399 thousand persons, a close level as previous quarter (-0.1%), but higher than similar quarter of 2001 (+1.9%). State social insurance pensioners have represented 70.6% of total number of pensioners.

The ratio between the number of pensioners and the number of employees was 1.5 pensioners per employee.

In Q I 2002, the monthly average pension of state social insurance pensioners was ROL 1512441/month, by 7.8% more than Q IV 2001 and by 27.1% more than Q I 2001.