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regarding the main short term indicators in May and during 1.I.-31.V.2003

In May 2003, **industrial production** registered, under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number, a growth of 3.8% as against April (+4.8% in absolute volume) and a growth of 4.4% as compared to May 2002.

During 1.I.-31.V.2003, industrial production increased as against the similar period of 2002, both under comparable conditions and in absolute volume (+2.6%, respectively +1.9%). In this period, there were registered growths in manufacturing (+3.5%, respectively +2.7%) and in energy industry (+2.9%).

On 31.V.2003, the value of stocks of finished products in industry accounted for ROL 53391 billion current prices, representing 37.4% of May resources .

During 1.I.-31.V.2003, **the main resources of primary energy** amounted to 16594.5 thousand tons equivalent oil¹⁾, of which 10415.1 thousand tons equivalent oil¹⁾ of domestic production.

In the first five months of this year, the production of electric energy accounted for 24411.3 million kWh, increasing by 5.9% as against the similar period of the previous year. Electric energy obtained in hydro-power stations represented 29.8% of total production, increasing by 11.4% as against the 1.I-31.V.2002 period.

In **agriculture**, according to current data of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, on June 26, 2003, the harvesting of autumn barley and two row barley was performed on 78.4 thousand hectares, resulting a total production of 166.7 thousand tons.

The livestock, existent at the end of May 2003, as against the same date of the previous year was by 14.6% higher for pigs, by 1.7% higher for cattle and by 0.6% higher for sheep and goats.

During 1.I-30.IV.2003, turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **retail** (excepting motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 1.6% over the level registered in the same period of 2002, growths being obtained both for sales of food goods (+1.1%) and for sales of non-food goods (+2.0%).

Turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail of fuels for motor vehicles**, during 1.I-30.IV. 2003, was by 10.6 % higher than the same period of 2002 mainly due to higher turnover volume in motor vehicles, motorcycles trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles (+16.3%).

In the first four months of 2003, the activity of **market services rendered to the population** pointed out a turnover by 1.5% higher than the same period of the previous year, due to growths registered in the activities of travel agencies and tourist assistance (+9.3%), laundry, cleaning and dyeing textiles and fur (+4.5%) and gambling and other recreation activities (+3.6%).

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **the number of registered unemployed** at the end of May 2003 was 693.1 thousands. In comparison with May 2002, the number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment was by 290.2 thousands lower. Of total registered unemployed, women represented 42.4%.

In May 2003, **unemployment rate** was 7.4 % in relation with total active civil population (7.8% in April 2003 and 10.5% in May 2002). In the same month, women unemployment rate was 6.5% (6.8% in April 2003 and 9.6% in May 2002).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Vaslui (13.3 %), Galați (12.9%) and Hunedoara (11.2%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties Bihor (2.6%), Satu Mare (3.0%), Timiș (3.6%) and Bucharest Municipality (2.9%).

¹⁾ Conventional fuel with calorific power of 10.000 kcal/kg.