

PRESS RELEASE

No. 9 of February 10, 2004

on the main short term indicators in December and in 2003

Industrial production achieved in 2003 increased by 3.4% as against 2002 under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number and by 3.2% in absolute volume, being registered a growth of 4.1% (respectively 3.9%) in manufacturing.

In December 2003, industrial production registered under comparable conditions and in absolute volume, a growth of 5.9% as compared to December 2002.

Total turnover¹⁾ of enterprises having industry as their main activity was higher during 1.I-30.XI.2003 in real terms, by 4,6% as against the same period of 2002.

On 31.XII.2003, the value of stocks of finished products in industry, was ROL 54339 billion current prices, representing 36.9% of December resources (as against 37.3% at the end of November 2003).

In 2003, **the main resources of primary energy** accounted for 39000.1 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾, of which 24487.6 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾ from domestic production.

Production of electric energy achieved in 2003 amounted to 56.5 billion kWh, increasing by 3.3% in comparison with 2002. Electric energy obtained in classical thermo-power stations represented 67.2% of production, being by 14.7% higher than in 2002.

During 1.I-30.XI.2003, **turnover volume of enterprises having retail trade as their main activity** (excepting motorvehicles and motorcycles trade) was by 4.9% over the level registered in the same period of 2002, a higher growth being registered for sales of non-food goods (+7.6%).

During 1.I-30.XI.2003, **turnover volume of enterprises having wholesale and retail trade as their main activity, maintenance and repair of motorvehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuels for motor vehicles**, was by 14.0% higher than in the same period of 2002, this level being supported by the growth of turnover volume obtained in trade of motorvehicles, motorcycles, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles (+17.7%) and by the level obtained in retail trade of fuels for motorvehicles (+11.0%).

In those eleven months of 2003, **the activity of market services rendered to the population** registered a turnover by 4.8% higher than in the same period of 2002.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, at the end of December 2003, **the number of registered unemployed** was 658.9 thousand persons. In comparison with December 2002, the number of registered unemployed at the agencies for employment was by 101.7 thousands lower. Of total number of registered unemployed, women represented 43.5%.

Unemployment rate registered in December 2003 (calculated in relation with total civil active population) was 7.2% per total and 6.6% for women, being kept at the level of November 2003 (8.4%, respectively 7.8% in December 2002).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the following counties: Hunedoara (12.3%), Vaslui (11.9%), Ialomița (10.8%), Olt (10.6%), Galați (10.4%), Prahova (10.1%), Brașov and Teleorman (10.0% each). The lowest unemployment rates were noticed in the counties Bihor (2.5%), Satu Mare (2.7%), Timiș (3.5%), and in Bucharest Municipality (2.7%).

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

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