

PRESS RELEASE

No. 15 of March 10, 2004

on the main short term indicators in 2003 and in January 2004

In January 2004, **industrial production** was by 3.8% higher than in the same month of the previous year, under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number, gross index registering a growth of 0.4%.

In 2003, total turnover¹⁾ of enterprises having industry as their main activity was by 4.6% higher, in real terms, in comparison with 2002.

In January 2004, **the main resources of primary energy** amounted to 3606.2 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾, of which 2272.8 thousand tons equivalent oil²⁾ from domestic production.

In January 2004, the production of electric energy accounted for 5.4 billion kWh, increasing by 3.4% as against the same month of the previous year. Electric energy obtained in classical thermo-power stations represented 72.0% of total production, being by 16.9% higher than in January 2003.

Investments achieved in the economy in 2003 amounted to ROL 249704.3 billion, increasing in real terms by 8.5% as against 2002.

Investments in construction works accounted for ROL 102333.2 billion (41.0% of total), increasing by 5.8% in comparison with 2002. Investments in transport equipment and means amounted to ROL 121521.0 billion (48.7% of total) and were situated by 12.6% over the level of 2002.

Investments from private majority sector represented 67.6% of total, increasing by 11.2% as against 2002. They were mainly oriented to the purchasing of transport equipment and means, which represented 57.6% of investments volume.

In 2003, the value of **construction works** amounted to ROL 165198.9 billion, increasing by 6.5% as against 2002; 90.6% of them represented construction works carried out in private majority sector. In this period, by types of works, there were carried out new construction works of ROL 102333.2 billion, representing 1.9% of total value of construction works.

Capital repairs works amounted to ROL 26701.4 billion (16.2% of total value of construction works) and maintenance and current repairs works carried out for existent buildings and construction represented 21.9%.

In 2003, 27644 **construction licences** were released for residential buildings, of which, those for one dwelling residential buildings represented 97.5% as against total. Residential buildings, for which construction licences were released, were provided, according to the project, with 31702 dwellings, having a useful area of 4444.1 thousand sq.m.

In 2003, the number of **finished dwellings** was 28990, increasing by 1268 dwellings as against 2002. 6423 dwellings were carried out from budgetary subsidies, registering a growth of 3467 dwellings as against 2002. Although in 2003, the number of finished dwellings from the population funds was lower than in 2002, this category still holds the highest weight (76.6% of total finished dwellings).

On December 31, 2003, 81235 dwellings were under various **execution stages** of construction works on account of economic units and of the population; 37.4% of them were under advanced finishing stage.

Livestocks, existent on January 31, 2004, in comparison with the same date of the previous year, were by 5.4% higher for cattle, by 3.1% higher for sheep and goats and decreased by 18.8% for pigs.

In 2003, turnover volume of enterprises having as their main activity **retail trade** (excepting trade of motor vehicles and motorcycles) was situated by 5.7% over the level registered in 2002, a higher growth being obtained for sales of non-food goods (+8.9%).

In 2003, turnover volume of enterprises having as their main activity **wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuels for motor vehicles** was by 14.0% higher than in 2002, being supported by the growth of turnover volume obtained from trade of motor vehicles, motorcycles, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles (+17.5%) and by that obtained from retail trade of fuels for motor vehicles (+11.3%).

In 2003, the activity of **market services rendered to the population** registered a turnover by 4.9% higher than in 2002.

In the fourth quarter of 2003, **average number of pensioners** was 6286 thousand persons, falling by 0.1% as against the third quarter of 2003.

¹⁾ Total turnover comes from main activity, as well as from secondary activities of industrial enterprises.

²⁾ Conventional fuel with calorific power of 10 000 kcal/kg.

Social insurance pensioners represented 99.5% of total number of pensioners; in this category, in comparison with the third quarter of 2003, the number of state social insurance pensioners registered a growth of 16 thousand pensioners and that of farmers pensioners decreased by 21 thousand persons.

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

In the fourth quarter of 2003, monthly average pension of state social insurance pensioners was ROL 1979100, increasing by 3.0% as against the third quarter of 2003.

The ratio between average pension of state social insurance pensioners for age limit, with full subscription stage (without taxes) and net average earning was 51.4% in the fourth quarter of 2004.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **the number of registered unemployed** was 693.4 thousand persons at the end of January 2004. In comparison with January 2003, the number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment was by 88 thousand persons lower. Of total number of registered unemployed, women represented 41.7%.

Unemployment rate registered in January 2004 was 7.6% in relation with total active civil population (7.2% in December 2003 and 8.6% in January 2003). In the same month, women unemployment rate was 6.7% (6.6% in December 2003 and 7.8% in January 2003) and men unemployment rate was 8.5% (7.9% in December 2003 and 9.4% in January 2003).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the following counties: Hunedoara (13.1%), Vaslui (12.5%), Ialomița (11.6%), Galați and Olt (11.0% each), Brașov and Vâlcea (10.9% each). The lowest unemployment rates were met in the counties: Bihor (2.6%), Satu Mare (3.2%), Timiș (3.5%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.7%).