



PRESS RELEASE

No. 24 of May 10, 2006

regarding the main short term indicators during 1.I.-31.III.2006
and in March 2006

During 1.I.-31.III.2006, **industrial production** registered a positive evolution as against the same period of the previous year, unadjusted index being 104.5% per total industry and 104.8% at level of manufacturing. In March 2006, as against the same month of the previous year, index per total industry was 104.3%.

Total turnover¹⁾ of enterprises having industry as main activity registered during 1.I.-31.III.2006, in real terms, an increase of 6.0% as compared to 1.I.-31.III.2005 period; in March 2006, as against March 2005, total turnover increased by 0.6%.

Labour productivity in industry registered a growth of 8.4% during 1.I.-31.III.2006 as against 1.I.-31.III.2005 period.

During 1.I.-31.III.2006, **main resources of primary energy** amounted to 10874.1 thou tons equivalent oil²⁾, of which 6579.2 thou tons equivalent oil from domestic production.

Value of **construction works** increased by 20.7% during 1.I.-31.III.2006, as compared to 1.I.-31.III.2005 period; in March 2006, the volume of construction works increased by 21.6% as against the same month of the previous year.

In March 2006, 3337 authorizations for residential buildings were released.

During 1.I.-31.III.2006, turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **retail trade** (except trade of motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 23.8% over the level registered during 1.I.-31.III.2005, higher growths being obtained for sales of food goods, beverages and tobacco (+30.6%).

In March 2006, in comparison with March 2005, turnover obtained from retail trade was by 20.2% higher (+32.8% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +10.2% for non-food goods).

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

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

Turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles** registered during 1.I.-31.III.2006 was by 15.0% higher as against the level of 1.I.-31.III.2005 period.

In comparison with March 2005, turnover obtained in March 2006 was by 9.5% higher due to the increase of turnover obtained, both from trade and maintenance of motor vehicles, and from retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles (+9.7%, respectively +9.4%).

The activity of **market services rendered to the population** during 1.I.-31.III.2006 pointed out a turnover by 0.8% lower than during 1.I.-31.III.2005. In comparison with March 2005, in March 2006 a decrease of 4.9% was registered.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of unemployed registered at the end of March** 2006 was 545.9 thousands. In comparison with March 2005, number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment was by 8.1 thousands higher. Out of total unemployed registered, women represented 39.4%.

In March 2006, **unemployment rate** was 6.2% in relation to civil active population (6.1% in March 2005). Female unemployment rate was 5.2%, being at level of March 2005 and male unemployment rate was 7.1% (7.0% in March 2005).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Vaslui (12.1%), Ialomița (11.6%), Hunedoara (10.5%), Gorj (10.4%), Harghita (10.3%) and Mehedinți (10.1%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Ilfov and Timiș (2.4% each), Bihor (3.2 %), Arad (3.9%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.6%).

