
Production Growth To Continue In Mining Industry, Metallurgy And Building Material Production

Noyan Tapan - 27/2/2008

A production growth was registered in the mining industry, metallurgy and nonmetal ore processing in 2007, and the continuity of this growth will be ensured by investment programs, the head of the nature use economy and mining industry department of the RA ministry of trade and economic development Artur Ashughian stated at the February 26 press conference.

According to him, production of the mining industry grew by 6.5% in 2007 on 2006 and made about 225 bln drams (over 657.7 mln USD). Particularly, the production of the Zangezour copper and molybdenum enterprise (ZCME) grew by 3% to about 82 bln drams in 2007. It is envisaged that thanks to large-scale modernization being done at ZCME now, 17 mln tons of ore will be processed at the enterprise in 2008 instead of the previously programmed volume of 12.5 mln tons. It was announced that production of the Agarak copper and molybdenum enterprise grew by about 8% to 15 bln drams. Production of Deno Gold Mining company declined by about 4% to 6 bln 250 mln drams.

A. Ashughian explained the production decline at the plant of this company by the fact that the plant applies technologies different from those of ZCME. Besides, it uses the raw material of the newly developed Shahumian gold-polymetallic mine, whereas the operation of ZCME did not stop during the re-equipment of its processing production, although the growth in production has slowed down because of re-equipment.

The ministry's official said that as for the molybdenum processing plants, Armenian Molybdenum Production company's production grew by 33.5% to about 38 bln drams in 2007, while that of Pure Iron company grew by 3% to 45.7 bln drams.

Out of the other metallurgical enterprises, production of ArmenAl made 14 bln drams in 2007 thanks to its modernization, which, according to A. Ashughian, is a good index.

As regards cement plants, production of Ararat-Cement grew by about 21% as compared with 2006 and made about 13 bln drams, the same indices with respect to Mika-Cement made about 10% and 7.5 bln drams respectively. The building material producing enterprises ensured a 16% growth, with their production amounting to 21 bln drams.
