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JPRS L/9015 3 April 1980

East Europe Report

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS

(FOUO 2/80)



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EAST EUROPE REPORT

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

CSSR IMPROVEMENTS IN IL-62 EFFICIENCY EXPLAINED

Prague TECHNICKY TYDENNIK in Czech 26 Feb 80 p 16

[Text] Historical events are taking place at the Ruzyn hangars since the 15 November 1979. This day, an 80-member team of mechanics of the Czechoslovak airlines and specialists from the Soviet air industry have undertaken an extensive remodelling work on our largest transport aircraft the IL-62. These repairs, which in their content and extent are being done in Czechoslovakia for the first time, are expected to continue until approximately 15 March 1980.

The reason why the Czechoslovak airline management has decided on this step is, first of all, the desire to extend the number of flying hours and the range of the planned operations without a general overhaul. A general overhaul of this silver bird is scheduled on completion of 6000 hours of flying time. This overhaul is very demanding and from the operational standpoint not very efficient. The reconstruction at the Ruzyn Airport is expected to enable the utilization during the life of the aircraft without a single general overhaul.

The management of the Czechoslovak airlines submitted this proposal to the designers and top management of the Soviet aircraft industry. They also took advantage of the opportunity of the visit of the chief IL-62 designer, Novo-zilov, in our country. As can be seen, they have confidence in the capability of our mechanics: they entrusted them with the modifications.

Modelling [of operations] without general operations [sic--general overhaul?] has shown that the intended task will reduce the overall maintenance and repair costs by 40 percent. An important contribution has also been made by researchers of the Air Research and Experimental Institute in Letnany who, in less than 3 months, have produced a simulated operation of the II-62 aircraft. On this model they were able to test the contribution of the new maintenance and repair schedule during the life of the aircraft.

Today, one of these aircraft, registration OK ABD Kosice, lies partly disassembled in the hangar. The aircraft interior in no way reminds one of the modern, comfortable environment so well known to the passengers. Around the aircraft and in its interior it looks very lively as the various

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specialists inspect every inch; they are using ultrasonic equipment, flaw detectors, and x-rays. The electrical systems are being rewired, floors, walls, and ceilings replaced. Our civilian air industry initiated with this repair a new era in an important transportation area. It is evident already, that after the experience in reconditioning the IL-62, the TU-134 and JAK-40 will similarly undergo this type of repair. The CSA management has again gained full understanding of the Jakovlev and Tupolev designers for this idea. The many millions in savings which will be effected by this step are a contribution to our national economy. The other airlines of the CEMA countries can now follow our example.

A goal conscious cooperation of developmental construction of the production enterprise and operations brings large results. And that is what it's all about.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

GROWTH OF SSR AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS ENTERPRISES DISCUSSED

Bratislava AGROCHEMIA in Slovak No 11, 1979 pp349-351

[Article by Jozef Demecko, CSc., of the Institute for Scientific Economic Management System, Bratislava]

[Text] In evaluating the activity of agrochemical enterprises in the SSR within the framework of the documentation effected on standard bases for the entire CSSR, we obtained information which enables us not only to judge the status of construction and the start of operations, but at the same time, to work up measures for their further construction. The basis for the building of agrochemical services of a new type in the agrochemical enterprises (ACHP) is the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Decree No. 2/1975 of the Collection of Laws of the CSSR concerning cooperative relations in the development of specialization and concentration of agricultural production, which was supplanted as of 1 January 1976 by Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Decree No. 159/1975 of the Collection of Laws of the CSSR concerning cooperation in agriculture and forms of cooperation. In Table 1, we cite figures on the establishment of agrochemical enterprises in the SSR.

Table 1. Survey of the Establishment of ACHPs in the SSR by Kraj

Kraj		Number of ACHPs established in the years				
	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	1975	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
West Slovakia	2	1	2	1	4	1
Central Slovakia	1	1	1	-	5	4
East Slovakia	1	2	2	2	5	-
SSR	4	4	5	3	14	5

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The largest number of agrochemical enterprises (14) were established in 1976. Up to now, 35 agrochemical enterprises have been set up in every okres except for Cadca. One of the first agrochemical enterprises founded in 1972 was the ACHP in Zohora for Bratislava-Vidiek Okres, with a capacity thus far for one cooperative district. Then there is the ACHP in Hlinik nad Hronom for Ziar nad Hronom Okres, and one in Nitra and another in Vel'ka Lomnica for Poprad Okres. In Table 2, we cite some basic information from which it is possible to calculate the increase in the membership base and the agricultural land areas and cultivated lands of the member enterprises, for which the agrochemical enterprises are obliged to provide for the protection and fertilization of plants at a high qualitative level, on the principles of a purposeful and scientifically based system of plant protection and fertilization.

Table 2. Basic Data on Agrochemical Enterprises in the SSR for 1976, 1977, and 1978.

<u>1976</u> . 561		1978
. 561		
	681	715
02,619	1,852,337	2,035,836
77,962	1,171,374	1,339,248
48	55	62
95,711	115,805	137,187
78,423	91,141	104,293
98,330	1,968,142	2,173,123
70	2 85	.0 36.
98	-	8,330 1,968,142 79.2 85

In 1978, the membership base of the ACHPs already amounted to 86.1 percent of the total agricultural land in the SSR. With respect to the increase in member enterprises and in agricultural land, it is possible to regard this as a satisfactory trend in the development of agricultural enterprises.

Table 3 provides a picture of the increase in the number of ACHP workers in the SSR.

Table 3. The Number of Workers of Agrochemical Enterprises in the SSR

	Sta	31 Dec	
Category of Workers	1976	1977	1978
Operational Workers	633	1,008	1,365
Technical-Economic Personnel (director's staff)	405	668	820
Vorkers of regional agricultural laboratories	405	000	020
and technical-administrative workers	73	113	147
Workers engaged in auxiliary activities	34	61	40
Total ACHP workers	1,145	1,849	2,370

The greatest rise was noted in West Slovakia Kraj. In 1977, we determined the skill structure of workers of the specialized departments for the protection and fertilization of plants, which were separated from the Machine Tractor Stations and transferred to the ACHP as of 1 January 1976. Investigations at 15 selected ACHPs have shown that only 25.2 percent of the workers had higher education, 52.2 had intermediate school education, 12.2 percent had vocational school education, and 10.4 percent had elementary education. For operating and providing scientifically-based plant protection and fertilization, the use of computer equipment for indicating and recording harmful factors, the introduction of mathematical-statistical methods, and the compilation of plans of chemical preparations for plant protection with the use of an automated control system, the current skill structure is unsatisfactory.

Investigation of the equipping of agrochemical enterprises with the most important machinery, such as transport equipment and application equipment in regard to both chemical protection and fertilizing with commercial and organic fertilizers, and of other needed equipment showed that with the current growth of equipment in the ACHPs, it is impossible to count on offering services to member enterprises for the total area of agricultural land up to 1985. The results of the investigation are shown in Table 4.

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Table 4. Number of Machines and Equipment at the ACHPs

Status as of 31 December			
Indices	1976	1977	1978
5-ton capacity trucks	271	375	446
of these, type IFA	258	375	434
Trucks, 10-ton capacity and over	13	38	85
of these, type Tatra 815Z	0	1	2
D 032 synthetic fertilizer adapter spreader	107	162	211
RCW4, 5, 6	11	22	2
T815 Z Adapter	0	0	0
VLH Tatra 148 tank trucks for lime materials	22	52	57
T 148 PAH 118 transporters for alkaline substances	0	0	. 17
Raj special railroad cars	10	12	15
Tank truck spreaders,	13	25	31
Tatra 148 CAS 10			
Tractor-mounted tank spreaders, HTS 100.17	17	20	20
Fecal superstructure for the T 815 Z	0	0	0
Manure spreader for the T 815 Z	33	60	0
Truck cranes	4	8	10
Tractor-mounted Kertitox prayers	43	63	71
Kertitox sprayer on a truck chassis	3	9	35
KV-70 freight car unloader	4	6	17
Chemical fertilizer crusher	0	0	5

As of 31 December 1978, 8 agrochemical enterprises did not possess a single Kertitox sprayer, and in another 13 ACHP, only one or two sprayers were available. The inadequate equipping of the material and technical base of the ACHPs can be seen from the example of the Kertitox brand sprayers. For example, with a 300 liters.ha-1 portion of liquid spray, and an average output of 1,875 hectares per sprayer per season, the ACHP, with their own application equipment (with 106 sprayers) could treat a total of 198,750 plants. For treating 70 percent of the farm land area of the member enterprises, which amounts to an area of 1,521,170 hectares, 800 Kertitox sprayers would be needed. The current number of sprayers covers roughly 13 percent. As a result of the shortage of sprayers, which have a relatively low service life because of the corrosiveness of the pesticides applied, the member agricultural enterprises are forced to provide chemical protection with their own equipment and workers, using the old routine method, which does not give concern to the principles of a scientific system of plant protection.

The construction of storage facilities for dry synthetic fertilizers is lagging seriously. As of 31 December 1978, only 6 storehouses with a total capacity for 44,000 tons of commercial goods were in operation. The perspective concept, which stems from the assumption of

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2.54 million hectares of farm land in 1990, an intensity of fertilization with 325 kg net of NPK.ha⁻¹and a 2.5-time repetition rate, is counting on the construction of 169 storehouses for dry synthetic fertilizers. In view of the fact that the expansion of the production of liquid fertilizers is also being considered, plans are being prepared for their construction. [Sentence as published]. As of now, only the ACHP in Zohora and in Hlinik nad Hromom have had smaller capacities built for the storage of liquid fertilizers. Insofar as the construction of storehouses for pesticides is concerned, the long range plan counts on the construction of one ready-use storage facility in each ACHP with a capacity to 120 tons. No consideration is being given to their construction at application centers. Investigation shows that thus far, only three storehouses for pesticides are available.

For crop-dusting activity, which is a decisive factor in the provision of protection and fertilization of agricultural crops, the construction of airfields is inevitable. The results of investigation show (Table 5) that the shortage of basic and operational strips continues. The best conditions relatively for crop-dusting activity exists in West Slovakia Kraj, which has 133 working air strips at its disposal. Since the optimum economy in crop dusting activity is attained up to a range of 4 km, it will be necessary to reevaluate the current status of hardsurfaced and operational strips and to carry out a construction plan.

		Status as of 31 Dec.			
Indicator	Kraj	1976	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	
Hard-Surfaced air Strips	West Slovakia	2	5	12	
Basic strips	Central Slovakia	1	2	4	
	East Slovakia	3	4	12	
	West Slovakia	49	118	133	
Operational strips	Central Slovakia	9	14	30	
operational offer	East Slovakia	15	23	10	

Table 5. Status of Building Fields for Crop-Dusting Activity in the SSR According to Kraj

The extent of certain main activities in the protection and fertilization is provided in Table 6. Table 6 shows that the volume of the main activities of agricultural enterprises is increasing moderately from year to year in accordance with the growth of mechanization. The share of agrochemical enterprises in providing protection and fertilization of plants is not satisfactory. If we consider the need to spray 70 percent of the agricultural land of member enterprises (in 1978 this involved an area of 1,527,400 ha), the ACHPs with their own application equipment sprinkled perhaps 7.8 precent and the subcontractors, by means of Machine-Tractor Station equipment, did 4.7 percent. A coverage of 28 percent was accounted for by agency of Slovair. The crops on the

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remaining areas were sprinkled by the agricultural enterprises with their own application equipment. If the total agricultural land area of member enterprises equals 100, then the ACHPs distributed cow manure with their own application equipment in the amount of 13.3 percent.

Table 6. Volume of Certain Main Activities of the ACHPs in the SSR

Indicator	Actual activities during year			
	<u>1976</u>	. <u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	
Lime treatment of soil (ha)	41,606	93,307	138,437	
Distribution of solid synthetic fertilizers (ha) Distribution of solid synthetic	94,545	168,313	290,335	
fertilizers (t) Application of liquid synthetic	61,930	133,406	206,249	
fertilizers (ha) Aviation activitiesfertilization	20,568	40,497	76,276	
of plantsaverage (ha)	475,638	710,525	871,553	
chemical protection of plants average (ha)	264,756	328,157	396,758	
Ground protection of plants with ACHP means	34,870	62,271	119,178	
Ground protection of plants by subcontractors (STS) (ha)	62,081	67,334	•	
Application of organic fertilizers (t) Application of stable manure (t)	9,309 352,381	63,882 639,348 1		
of these, with the use of manure slingers(t) Production of composts (m ³)	232,436 11,418	398,334 36,388	514, 864 77,900	

According to the volume of the activity conducted, it is necessary to classify the agrochemical enterprises in the group of enterprises that are in the starting phase of their activity. This refers here to those enterprises which thus far do not own application equipment and offer theri survices exclusively by subcontracting. The optimization of work in the protection and fertilization of agricultural crops is based on the supplies of materials and equipment and the needed personnel, and the implementation of a scientific system of protection and fertilization of plants.

The real deadline for the augmentation of the ACHPs with respect to materials, equipment and personnel, and the basis for optimizing their work in the protection and fertilization of plants is in 1990.

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However, this requires an unconditional approach in working out a realistic program of construction and the development of crivity, the study of draft programs in party organs and central administrative bodies, and the assurance of financing for the program. Finally, it is necessary to bring it about in such a way that in spite of the many objective and subjective difficulties, the agrochemical enterprises will be strengthened and will expand their activity in volume and structure, and will demonstrate their viability in concentrated and specialized agricultural production.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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PROBLEMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN METALLURGY IN 1979

Prague HUTNIK in Czech No 12, 1979 pp 441-442

[Editorial]

[Text] The beginning of this year tested very concretely our ability to manage and cope with the unusual difficulties that mainfested themselves in all enterprises of VHJ Hutnictvi zeleza [Ferrous Metallurgy Economic Production Unit], VHJ Hutni Vyroba [Metallurgical Production Economic Production Unit], VHJ Kovohute [Nonferrous Metals Economic Production Unit], and in the plants of the VITKOVICE sectoral enterprise. Because of the objective losses incurred at the beginning of the year resulting from the limitation in electric power output and in operations, it was a fact, that within the departmental framework of the Ministry of Metallurgy and Heavy Engineering, the regular share of the annual plan for gross and commodity production was not fulfilled during the first months of 1979. However, the majority of the metallurgical enterprises succeeded in making up the January time lag during the course of 1979.

For example, the share of the annual plan fulfilled for the production of crude iron and steel already amounted to 65.0 percent in August 1979. The annual plan share fulfilled in the production of high-quality carbon steel amounted to 69.7 percent; that of alloyed steel reached 68.1 percent, and that of rolled metal, 66.5 percent. In general, the enterprises of the VHJ Hutni druhovyroba [Metal Products Enterprises Economic Production Unit] and VHJ Kovohute coped with the gradual fulfillment of the regular share of the annual production plan.

The past year of 1979 was so much more of a challenge than the preceding years of the Sixth Five-Year Plan, because, in addition to making up for time losses in production, it was necessary in an increased degree to cope with obligatory limits on imports from capitalist countries, with limits on the consumption of metals and energy, and with other problems involved with supplies from narrowly-specialized ancillary departments. Attention was focused on the better utilization of reserves, which include fuel, energy, metals, exports from capitalist countries, and labor. New progressive approaches, which were used in the preparation of the plan for 1979, turned out favorably. We are not just speaking about the

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timely specification of the guidelines for 1980, which were submitted to the enterprises immediately after the formulation of the plan for 1979, but also about the fact that efforts were made during the course of all stages of plan preparation to compile a draft plan for 1979 with the maximum intercoordination. A plan was submitted for the test operation of production units and equipment, including the proposed intensification of same. All indicators were subjected to precise analysis. The fact that the united approach between the party and economic organs was strengthened even durther during the compilation of the plan was also a very favorable thing.

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However, under the influence of the effects of objective factors, certain divergences from the state plan guidelines manifested themselves within the framework of the entire national economy, and on this basis, the entire dynamics of the growth of the formation of resources was lower in 1979 than what had been attained in previous years. This was reflected, especially, in the dynamics of growth of the national income this year. In addition to the objective influences, certain deficiencies in the production structure, especially in the quality and technical level of production, which have been inexistence in the Czechoslovak economy for a long while, had a part to play. The rise in prices of imported raw materials and energy continued on and on, and this was reflected in the worsening of exchange ratios in foreign trade. The desired improvement did not even occur in the qualitative ratios of the plan, for example, in the ratio of labor productivity growth and averages, and in the utilization of basic assets.

As far as capital outlays are concerned, it must be stated that even though the total volume of investment in 1979 within the structure of the Ministry of Metallurgy and Heavy Engineering did not diverge more obviously from the plan provisions, changes occurred in the structure of its fulfillment. Whereas in construction projects of over 2 million koruny in value, the investment plan is going unfulfilled to great measure, in contrast, investments in construction projects of under 2 million koruny of budgeted investments and of structures not included in the budget are being exceeded. In connection with these divergences in the structure of investments, the conditions are not being met for putting capacities into operation in the planned time period, and a surfeit of unfinished construction projects persists.

In the metallurgical industry sector, in the atea of capital projects realized in 1979, a favorable assessment can be given to the fact that this year, one of the largest capital investment operations of the Czechoslovak metallurgical industry--the new pipe rolling mill in the Sverma Iron Works national enterprise in Podbrezova, with a total investment of about 1.8 billion korunas, went into operation in April, and during 1979 already, turned out 37,000 tons of small-diameter pipe earmarked mainly for the aircraft, chemical, and automotive industries. The major portion of its output was supplied to the USSR. According to the long-term contract, an average 50,000 tons of pipe will be supplied

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to the USSR annually. Another tandem furnace was put into operation at the Nova Hut' K. G. Ostrava [Klement Gottwald New Metallurgical Works in Ostrave--also NHKG Ostrava] as a replacement for two open hearth furnaces. The realization of this construction project was the culmination of the tandem concept of steelmaking, and prerequesites were cre created for the production of 4.3 million tons of steel at the NHKG Ostrava. At the East Slovakia Iron Works in Kosice, an extraordinary overhaul of blast furnace No. 2 was carried out. This overhaul was connected with the rebuilding of the existing furnace volume of 1,700 cubic meters into a volume of 2,400 cubic meters. By increasing the volume of this blast furnace, the output of pig iron at the East Slovakia Iron Works is to be increased by from 350,000 to 370,000 tons annually, and at the same time, a higher degree of efficiency in its production is to be assured. With the use of evaporative cooling of furnaces according to a Soviet license, the installation of non-bell capping of the furnace, and further modernization and intensification of the equipment, it will be possible to lower the energy requirements of pig iron production. This will show up especially in the reduction of the regular consumption of coke and coolant water.

At POLDI-SONP Kladno [United Steel Works, national enterprise, Kladno], the government deadlines for the construction of a blooming and billet mill and the initiation of test operation of the capacities in a new plant on the Drina have largely been assured. The test operations are those of the blooming train by 31 December 1979, those of the billet train by 31 March 1980, and the testing in sequence of the cleaning plants by 30 September 1980.

A serious deficiency in the capital projects area in the metallurgical industry, however, is the fact that certain very important construction projects which had been counted on in the plan could not be put into operation on schedule. This applies especially to the medium-thin rolling mill and the construction of coking battery No. 11 at the NHKG Ostrava. The prolongation of the construction of coking battery No. 11 at the NHKG and the chaotic condition of coking battery No. 2 at POLDI SONP and the poor technical condition of the coking batteries in the rest of the metallurgical and mining enterprises is leading to a situation where this year, less coke will be produced than had been established by the state plan.

Likewise, in 1980, it is expected that for this reason, considerably less coke will be produced as against the established targets. Therefore, we have to look for emergency measures, especially in regard to lowering the expected shortage directly in production, but also in regard to reducing the supply of coke for small users and for the export of coke to socialist and capitalist countries.

A positive assessment can also be given to the efforts of our metallurgical enterprises to improve the quality of their products in 1979. it is possible to note that Trinecke zelezarny VRSR [Trinec Ironworks of the Great October Socialist Revolution] together with the NHKG Ostrava, POLDI-SONP Kladno, and the Orava Ferroalloys Works began in 1979 to develop and apply a complex quality control system, as the first in the VHJ Hutnictvi. For this, use was made of the experiences of fraternal Soviet metallurgical plants, which have already had several years of experience in applying this system. The complex quality control system is to be implemented in its full extent as of 1980. Some of its individual principles were already implemented in 1979, for example, the complex quality plan, the significant component of which are quality criteria, which establish the quality indexes for individual sectors, and set forms of material incentive. The efforts are concentrated in the working up of enterprise standards of those activities, which have the greatest influence on products quality.

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In 1979, the results of the statewide competitions for the support of the state plan for complex socialist rationalization were evaluated. These were the nineth annual competition: "For the rational use of fuel and energy," and the seventh annual competition: "For economizing on metals, raw materials, and producer goods."

In the nineth annual statewide competition: "For the rational use of fuel and energy," on the basis of departmental ratings and the investigation of demonstrated savings, a total of 50 prizes were awarded. Of these, 15 (or 30 percent) were wond by the problem solvers and problem solving collectives in the metallurgical industry sector. In the seventh annual statewide competion: "For economizing on metals, raw materials, and producer goods," the evaluation commission moved to award 50 prizes and two special awards. Of this number, 16 prizes were awarded to the problem solvers and problem solving collectives from enterprises of the metallurgical sector. It is no small fact either, that in the thematic competitions for jurnalists publicized in support of the statewide problem solving competitions, the journal HUTNIK was given first place in the category of departmental monthlies in both aforenoted competitions.

The aforenoted shows that Czechoslovak metallurgical industry workers have set forth with great activeness and initiative toward solving such serious problems as the rational consumption of fuels, energy, metals, raw materials, and producer goods, which, in view of the new situation in the World economy, have become the key problem, especially in connection with the further substantial rise in petroleum and raw materials prices.

In 1980, in the CSSR, an increase in the consumption of primary fuel and energy sources by 3.2 percent is anticipated, which is roughly the same growth as in 1979. Great efforts will be concentrated on the further reduction of electric power consumption. As against the past years of the

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Sixth Five-Year Plan, when this consumption rose about 4.5 percent per annum, in 1980, the cuts in electric power consumption will be made deeper on the basis of the detailed analysis of the development of consumption in 1979.

Considerable attention will be devoted in the metallurgical industry sector in 1980 to the maximum limitation of breakdowns in coke production. In this regard, it will also be necessary to to lower the regular consumption of coke by about 2 percent per ton of pig iron as against the actual 1979 consumption. With respect to supplying domestic consumption of rolled metal and steel pipe in the needed assortment, it is necessary to direct the enterprises toward an increased use of consumer reserves. In the plan for the export of metallurgical products in 1980, it is necessary to improve the structure of export for the purpose of limiting the unfavorable influence of the current share of exported semifinished products. Attention is also being focused on the attainment of relative cuts in basic metallurgical products in the consumption of machine building departments in the amount of 3.5 percent minimum, and in construction departments, in the amount of 2.8 percent. In 1980, it will be necessary to create the conditions for the gradual utilization of reserves, which depends on the utilization of basic assets, in well-ordered investment actions, and in longer completion terms of capital construction. It is necessary to make more effective use of the SNZR [expansion unknown] categories for intensifying modernization and rapid recovery actions and to lower substantially the extent of new construction starts. In this regard, the 1980 plan is creating the conditions for improving development at construction projects of over 2 million korunas in value, and for the gradual replacement of the import of foreign capacities.

Particular attantion will be paid in 1980 to putting capacities into operation. This applies especially to the VTZ Chomutov [Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill in Chomutov]--increasing the output of AK pipes; POLDI-SONP Kladno--blooming and billet rolling mill; Dratovna Hlohovec. [Hlohovec Wire Mill]--producing steel cords; NHKG Kuncice--stage three of the medium thin plate rolling mill; to the POLDI-SONP Kladno coking battery, and to other construction projects earmarked for production start up or for completion in 1980.

It is necessary to determine whether all workers in metallurgical enterprises were familiarized in accelerated fashion with the targets of the 1980 plan. Only through the concentration of the forces of the entire collective of the metallurgical workers on the main open problems, through the development of up to date positive experiences, and through the personal interest of each worker in solving the problems will it be possible within the framework of the entire national economy, to contribute to building a solid foundation for the plan for the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, and thus, to make possible the raising of the living standard of all citizens of the CSSR.

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