

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

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The development of the country's economy is directly related to the development and successful operation of heavy industry enterprises, since in this area people are engaged in the process of extraction and creation of the means of production, which ensure further production and consumption of goods. In addition, enterprises of heavy industry take active part in the formation of employment in the economy of a country, export of its products, which means that the volume of net export depends on them. A significant part of tax revenues is formed due to heavy industry.

Heavy industry includes the most important branches of the manufacturing industry: ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, machine building, chemical industry, as well as branches of the extractive industry (fuel and mining) [1].

There are a number of problems in heavy industry. One of these problems lies in the fact that the base created in the Soviet period was working in the condition of protectionism, proved to be uncompetitive in comparison with foreign analogues after the collapse of the USSR. Many enterprises in the Republic of Belarus have not able to rebuild production in a way that could compete in the world market.

The number of employees in the sphere of heavy industry decreased in the period from 2012 to 2016 by 151.5 thousand people. In 2012, there were 1075.1 thousand employees at the enterprises, but by 2015 this figure was reduced to 989 thousand people, and a year later it was decreased by another 6.6%, which was a record decrease for the period from 2012 to 2016.

The GDP of heavy industry enterprises at the same time increased rapidly in the analyzed period from 2012 to 2016. In 2012, GDP was 297 158 billion rubles, by 2016 it increased by 192.6%. The largest increase occurred in 2013 and amounted to 78.4% [2].

In accordance with the data above, the most non-consolatory indicators concern the number of employees. The number of employees at heavy industry enterprises is falling rapidly and, consequently, unemployment is increasing. As it is known, previously giants of industry struggled with unemployment by methods of optimizing working time. At the end of 2014, the Minsk Tractor Plant announced its indefinite transition to the four-day schedule. The situation at another large enterprise of the Belarusian capital, the MAZ automobile plant, and some of the city-forming industrial facilities in the regions of the country did not look any better. But the attempt to avoid cuts in the workforce failed. Work to optimize the number of labor resources at large enterprises of the country will inevitably continue [3].

Mass reductions are also associated with the difficult economic situation of the main partners of the Republic of Belarus – Russia and Ukraine. It is hardly necessary to wait for the revival in the Russian direction in the near future, and the search for new markets requires a certain amount of time and additional costs. It could be possible to solve partly some of the problems due to changes in economic priorities, since until now, the leaders of enterprises are required the achievement of gross indicators. In the case of market regulation of production volumes, GDP will begin to fall immediately, consequently the development of heavy industry in the Republic of Belarus has questionable disposition [4].

**Список использованных источников**

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