

RISK MONITORING AND WARNING REPORT TAJIKISTAN, August 2009



The report covers the following subjects:

- I. PRECIPITATION/NATURAL DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES
- II. WATER VOLUMES IN THE RESERVOIRS
- III. ENERGY
- IV. MACROECONOMIC TRENDS
- V. FOOD & FUEL PRICES
- VI. AGRICULTURE
- VII. MIGRATION & UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
- VIII. HEALTH

Data and information in this report have been provided by different sources and compiled by the UN Agencies in Tajikistan.

For any questions or suggestions, please contact: earlywarning.tj@undp.org

I. PRECIPITATION¹/NATURAL DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES

In general precipitation in July 2009 was lower than in the previous months and the multi-year norm. There are however important differences between the various regions in the country. In Kurgan-Tyube and Khorog precipitation was 67-75% above the norm (compared to 250-270% in June), whereas in Khujand and Dushanbe there was no precipitation at all.

Precipitation in July 2009				
Main regional cities	2009 (mm)	2008 (mm)	Norm (mm)	% change in 2009 from the norm
Dushanbe	0	3.3	3	-100%
Kurgan-Tyube	0.5	0	0.3	67%
Khujand	0	0	4	-100%
Khorog	7	0	4	75%

Toward the last ten days of the July and early August the temperature increased to 37-46 degrees C° in the plain areas and 28-39 C° in the high mountains. The high temperatures towards the end of July increased snow melt in the mountains. The water levels in most of river basins of Tajikistan were up to 226% higher than the multi year norm during the last 10 days of July 2009.

Water level in main river basins of Tajikistan in July, 2009							
#	Rivers	Basins	Average in cubic meters per second			% change compared to:	
			2009	2008	Norm	2008	Norm
1	Ghund	Khorog	433	186	133	133	226
2	Vakhsh	Darband	1536	927	1598	66	-4
5	Varzob	Dahana	118	39.8	77	196	53
6	Ehsu	Karbostonak	16	16.5	16.2	-3	-1
7	Kofarnihon	Tartki	382	85.5	213	347	79
8	Obihingov	Tavildara	618	350	558	77	11
9	Isfara	Toshkurgon	56.8	44.6	47.7	27	19

Natural Disasters: Landslide in Ayni district, Zerafshan Valley

On 09 August 2009 a landslide damaged infrastructures in the district of Ayni, province of Sughd. As reported by the deputy head of the State Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) in Sughd province, the landslide occurred due to geotechnical changes in the soil.

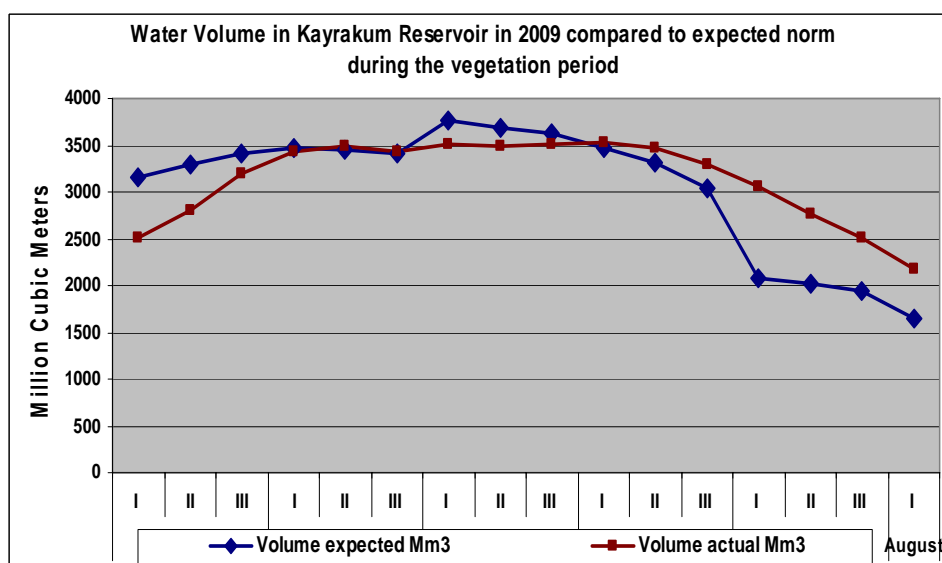
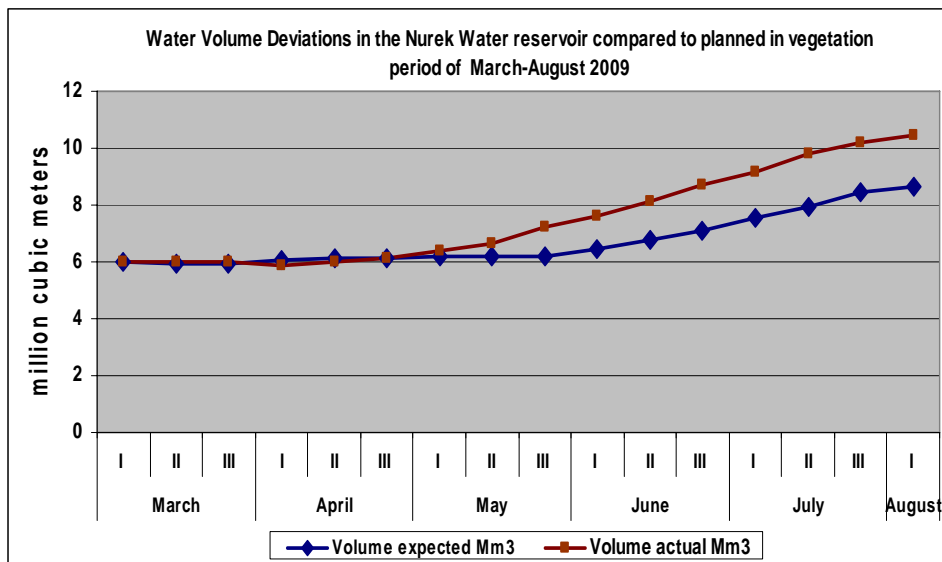
The landslide occurred 3 km away from the nearest settlement (Vashan village) and thus did not damage residential houses. However, 1.5 km of electricity and telephone lines as well as 7km of roads and 9 ha of agricultural lands were destroyed. As a consequence of the landslide, Vashan village with 259 households was cut off from the outside world and has been without electricity through 16 August.

¹ Data and information from the Hydro-Meteorological Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan

Currently, CoES staff together with the local government is working to mitigate the consequences of the landslide, including drawing a temporary electricity line to the village. However, as some 2 million cubic meters of earth are still unstable, the temporary electricity poles keep falling, repeatedly leaving the village without electricity.²

II. WATER VOLUME IN HYDROPOWER RESERVOIRS

Water volumes in the main hydropower reservoirs such as Nurek and Kayrakum remained well above the norm. On July 27, the water level in Nurek was registered at 905 meters, which is 20 meters more than registered in the same period of last year. According to CAREWIB website (Central Asia Regional Water Information Base, http://www.cawater-info.net/index_e.htm) indicates that, for the first 10 days of August 2009, water volumes exceeded the norm by 21% in Nurek and 31% in Kayrakum reservoir.

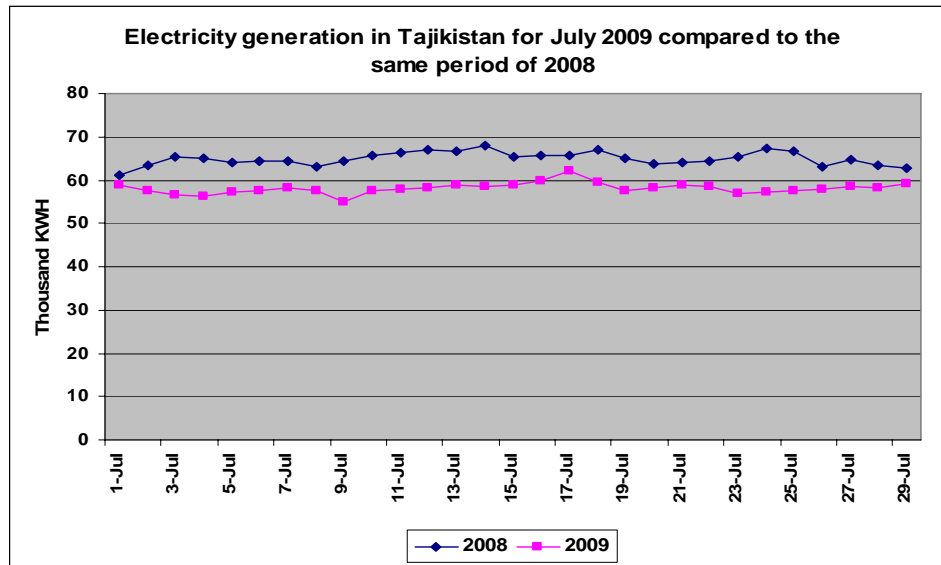


² Source: Kadiberdi Khudoyberdiev, Head of CoES in Sughd province

These trends bode well for Tajikistan's water, energy and food security prospects in the 5 remaining months of 2009, as well as for relations with neighboring countries, which greatly rely on water released from Nurek and Kayrakum for irrigation.

III. ENERGY³

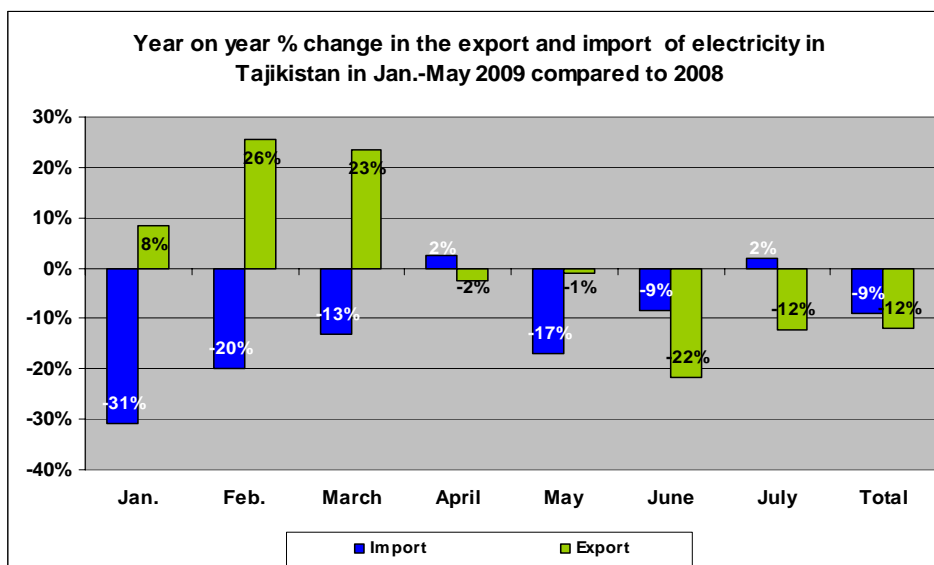
Despite high water levels in the reservoir, in July 2009 Hydroelectric Power Stations (HEPS) of Tajikistan have produced 1.8 billion kWh of electricity, which is 10% less than in July 2008.



On a daily basis, Tajikistan produced an average of 58 million kWh of electricity, compared to 64 million kWh on average in July 2008. From the beginning of the year, Tajikistan has produced 9.2 billion kWh of electricity, 4% less than during the same period of 2008.

The lower than normal electricity generation is first of all related to lower levels of energy exports. These decreased by 12% compared to the amount exported in 2008 during the same period of time.

³ Data and information on generation capacity and electricity availability is from OSHC "Barqi Tojik" (Major energy delivery company in Tajikistan), except where otherwise noted



In turn, these were related to a lower demand for electricity from Uzbekistan and lack of access to other markets for Tajik electricity. Claiming “technical problems” Uzbekistan currently did not allow the transit of Tajik electricity to outside markets. As export possibilities towards Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and the Indian sub-continent are still very limited, Nurek HEPS had to decrease its electricity output, therefore water from Nurek reservoir had been released on free flow. From the beginning of the year till August 2009, Tajikistan has exported 1.7 billion KWH, this includes the export of 450 million KWH of electricity to Uzbekistan, as per the long-standing agreement between the two countries concerning the exchange of energy throughout the year.⁴ Although total energy exports are lower by 12% than last year, in monetary value, Tajikistan received 3% more of USD income from electricity.

Another reason for the decrease in electricity generation is lower demand from the industrial sector. Tajik Aluminum Company (TALCO), for example, has decreased its monthly electricity consumption to 410 million kWh (from 700 million kWh). Also, due to abundant precipitation in the previous months, the demand for irrigation water has decreased, which reflected on a 169 million kWh drop in the electricity demand for water pumping stations.

On a positive note, on August 19, the Ministry of Energy and Industry reported that it reached an agreement with Uzbekistan with regard to transit of Turkmen electricity through Uzbek territory to Tajikistan. The agreement is important to cover Tajik energy needs during winter; the lack of such an agreement with Uzbekistan earlier this year halted the transit of Turkmen electricity through Uzbekistan from January to the end of February.

⁴ According to a long-standing agreement between Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, Tajikistan should export 450 million kWh of electricity to Uzbekistan during the summer season whereas Uzbekistan should export to Tajikistan 300 million kWh in winter. Tajikistan has received only 248 million KWH earlier this year. The rest of the amount should be delivered by Uzbekistan in Fall 2009.

Georgy Petrov, head of laboratory of Institute of Water Issues, Hydropower and Ecology in Academy of Science of Tajikistan, rules out the risk of repetition of energy crisis that Tajikistan had been facing during winter period of last years. Unlike in 2008, when the reservoirs of Tajikistan were significantly short of water, this year, Tajikistan has stocked more than enough water for production of electricity.

Besides, the HEPS Sngatuda-1 was put into operation this year, which will generate a projected 2.7 billion KWH of electricity per year, which will partly cover Tajikistan's 3.5-4 billion KWH of deficit during autumn-winter period. Moreover, Tajikistan has five-year agreement with Turkmenistan on import of 1.2 billion KWH of electricity to Tajikistan during autumn-winter period.

Also, Tajikistan is currently implementing the program for construction of small power plants and 50 such power plants are expected to begin generating electrical power by the end of this year.

Ministry of Energy and Industry of Tajikistan projects that for the coming autumn-winter season Tajikistan will not import Uzbek electricity as it traditionally did. Nationally produced electricity, coupled with imported electricity from Turkmenistan will be sufficient to cover the needs of the Tajik market.

Moreover, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan agreed that in August and September Tajikistan will export 500 million kWh of electricity to Uzbekistan. Information on prices for the export to Uzbekistan and the import from Turkmenistan is not available yet.

Tariffs for electricity

As of 01 August 2009 tariffs for electricity was raised by 25% for all categories of consumers. Accordingly, for each consumed kWh, residential consumers pay 0.08 TJS (0.01 USD), whereas industrial enterprises pay 0.17 (0.03 USD). TALCO, which benefits from special tariffs, pays 0.07 TJS (0.01 USD) per kWh.

From the beginning of the year, this is the second time that tariffs for electricity have been increased. A first 25% raise took place in January 2009.

Gas import⁵

Due to expensive price for Uzbek gas (66% increase compared to 2008), Tajikistan has imported only 150.5 million cubic meters of gas for 36.1 million USD for 7 months of 2009. This amount is 53.4% lower than for the same period of last year.

Following negotiations between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, Tajiktransgas has to pay off its 16 million USD debt to Uzbekistan for consumed gas by 01 October 2009. This debt has been accruing since the beginning of the year mainly due to the fact that big industrial companies such as OSHC Barqi Tojik,

⁵ Data and information from State Unitary Company "Tojiktransgas"

Tajikcement, Somonsughdgas, and TALCO have not paid the gas bills to Tajiktransgas. As TALCO and Tajikcement are important actors for Tajikistan's economy, Tajiktransgas continues supplying gas to them in spite of their accumulating debts.

In July 2009 Tajikistan continued receiving 25,000-27,000 cubic meters of gas from Uzbekistan on a daily basis. Of this, 20,000 m³ went to the central and southern part of Tajikistan, the rest going to the northern part of the country.

Due to the increase in gas prices reaching 240 USD per 1000 m³ and the impact of the global financial crisis (local currency depreciation), gas purchases by local industrial enterprises have decreased significantly (Ex. Barqi Tojik decreased its gas consumption by 40 million m³ and Tajikcement by 10 million m³ compared to their usual consumption), reflecting also declines in their production.

It is also important to note that due to high prices and supply interruptions, the demand for gas from households has declined over the past years. At present households account for only 15% of total gas consumed in the country, the rest goes to industrial enterprises and service companies.⁶

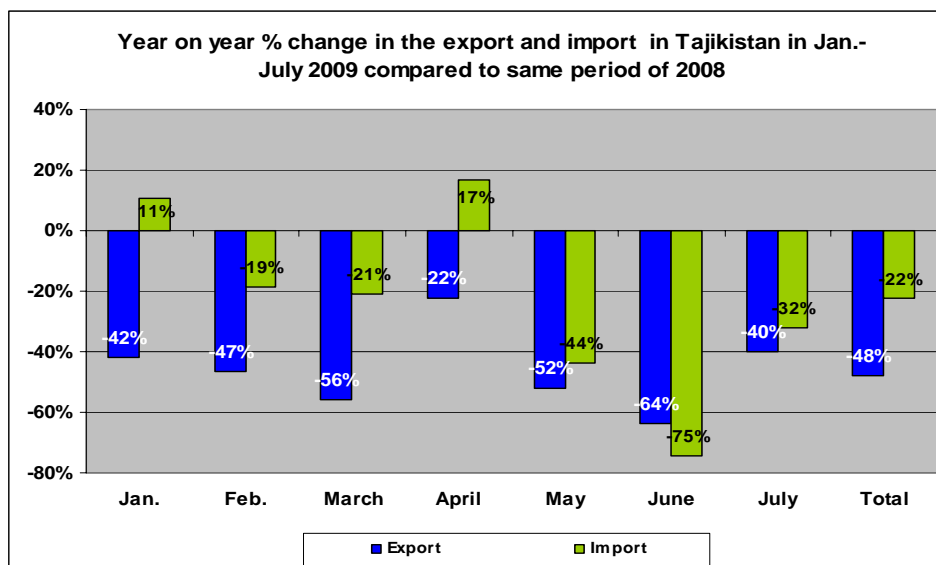
IV. MACROECONOMIC TRENDS

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the first 7 months of 2009 amounts to 9,910,000 TJS, a 3.1% increase compared to the same period of 2008. The GDP is distributed as follows: 47% from services such as transportation, communal and market services; 39% from industrial output such as industry, agriculture and construction; and 14 % from taxes.⁷

In July 2009 exports have decreased by 40% and imports by 32% compared to July 2008. For the 7 months of 2009, export has decreased by 48% and imports by 22% compared to the same period of 2008. Revenues from foreign trade contributed to the State budget reached only 1.9 million USD, 31.2% less than during the same period of 2008. The trade balance of Tajikistan in July 2009 was negative by 907.7 million USD for the 7 months of the year. This figure remained roughly unchanged on the \$896 million reported during the same period in 2008.

⁶ As of 01 July 2009, tariffs for natural gas rose by 15% for all users, due to national currency depreciation against the US dollar. Residential customers pay 1,330 TJS (303 USD) per 1000 m³ of gas, which is 166 TJS (38 USD) more than in previous months.

⁷ Bulletin "Socialno-ekonomicheskoe polozhenie Respubliki Tadjikistan", State Committee for Statistics, p. 142



The export slowdown is mainly attributable to the decline in global demand and prices for Tajikistan's primary export commodities, aluminum and cotton. Data from the Tajik State Committee for Statistics show that cotton export revenues fell by 45% and industrial outputs fell by 7.4% during January – July 2009 in comparison to the first 7 months of 2008.⁸

The global economic downturn has a clear negative impact on industrial sector of Tajikistan as well. During the first half of 2009, out of 800 industrial companies, 130 were shut down completely in Tajikistan. The rest have been operating at 40-50% of capacity.⁹ These work interruptions were mainly due to low demand in the export market compounded by the fragility of financial market and the consequent difficulties for enterprises accessing long-term bank credits at favorable interest rates.

During first half of 2009, the investment portfolio of Tajikistan reached USD 1.66 billion. Of this, 74% is credit, 15% is grants, and the remaining 11% are support provided to the State budget.¹⁰

The sharp decrease in exports and industrial production has a negative impact on employment as industries have to release workers and put them in unpaid leave¹¹. Furthermore the economic downturn also decreases taxes revenues which in turn affect negatively the national budget and the state capacity to implement social spending and anti-crisis programs. Media report that "delays on wages and pensions are already occurring, and appear to be worse in rural areas"¹².

⁸ Ibid. p. 220

⁹ <http://www2.asiaplus.tj/news/31/54917.html>

¹⁰ <http://www2.asiaplus.tj/news/49/55215.html>

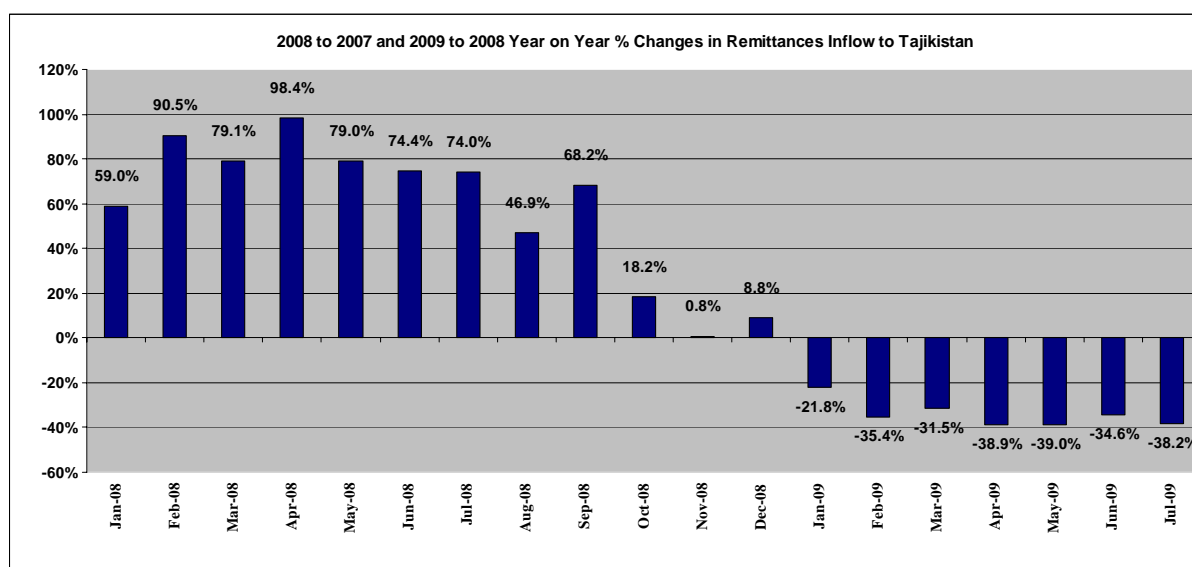
¹¹ «TAJIKISTAN'S ONLY GROWTH AREA», IWPR, Reporting Central Asia No. 585 Part 2

¹² Ibid

Remittances

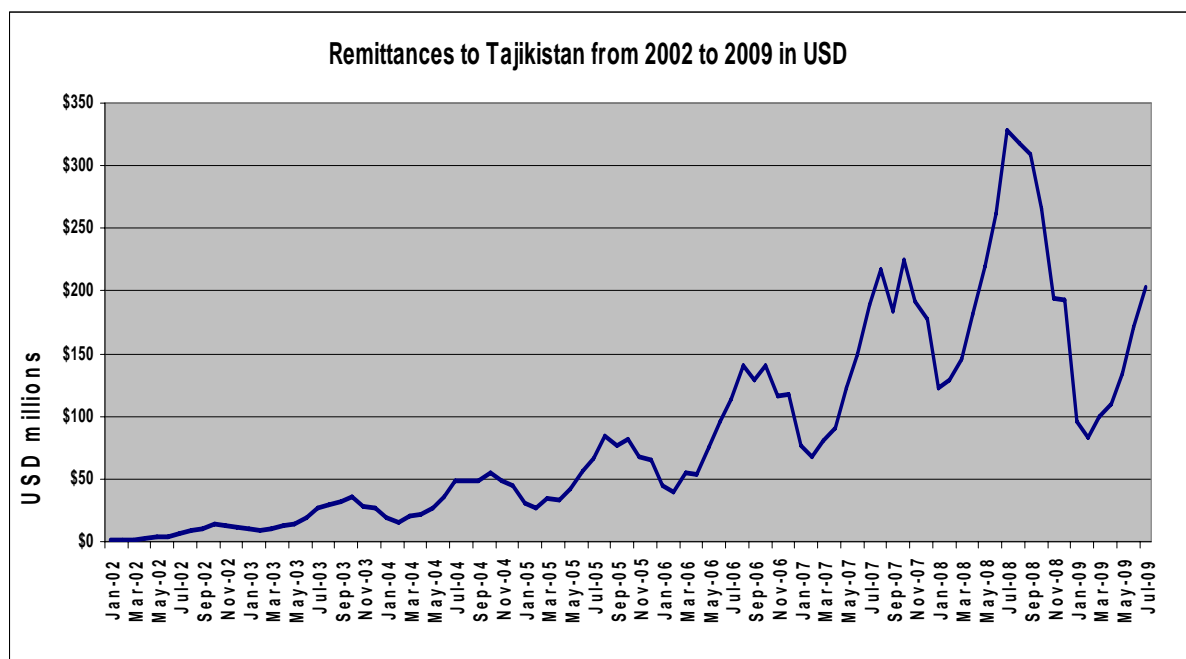
Remittances from labor migrants are one of Tajikistan's main sources of income. These funds are estimated between 30 to 50% of Tajikistan's GDP.

The volume of remittances to Tajikistan over the first 7 months of 2009 dropped by 35.3% compared to the same period of 2008, reinforcing Tajikistan's external vulnerability. In July 2009, Tajikistan received 202,595,000 USD in remittances.¹³ This represents 18% increase compared to June 2009 but 38% drop in year-on-year terms.



Partially thanks to the 18% seasonal increase in remittances compared to the previous months, the Tajik Somoni (TJS) stabilized against the USD and even slightly appreciated against the Russian Ruble. However, over the first 7 months of 2009, the TJS depreciated by a cumulative 27% against the USD. This could be partly linked to the 35.3% drop in remittance over the same period on year on year comparison.

¹³ Data obtained from the IMF mission in Tajikistan

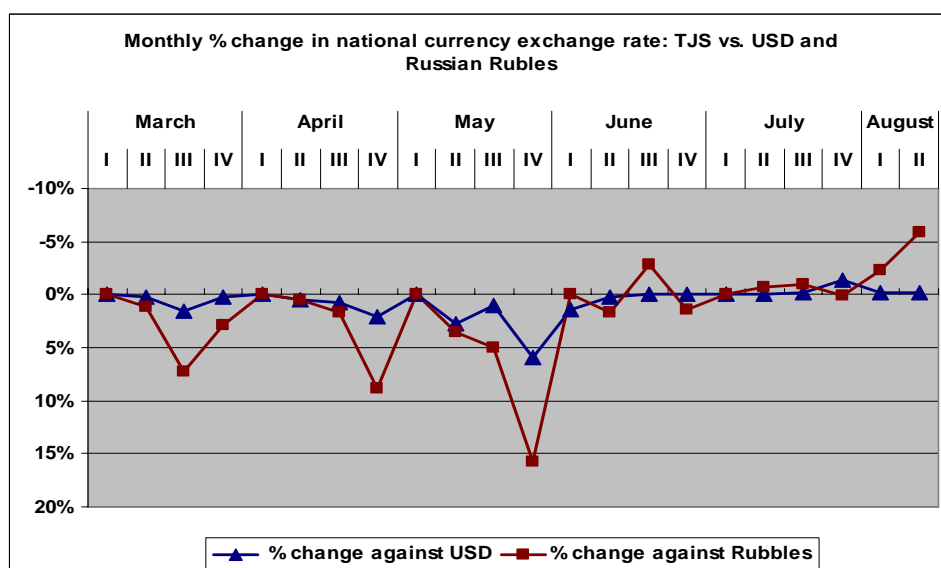


The overall decline in remittances for the 7 first months of 2009, certainly played a role in the reduction of imports (24%, mentioned on page 6) as remittances are paying for goods and services on the domestic market. Perhaps more importantly, the significant decrease in remittances in 2009 (compared to 2008) and the continuing inflation—especially for foodstuffs raise concerns about household incomes and consequently for households' capacity to purchase food and other basic goods. These concerns are particularly important for the most vulnerable layer of the population.

Exchange rate trends

As mentioned previously, in July 2009 the Tajik Somoni (TJS) stabilized vis-à-vis the US Dollar and even slightly appreciated against the Russian Ruble (by 6%).¹⁴ A number of possible explanations have been advanced for this, including the intervention by the National Bank of Tajikistan, unexpected growth in Dollar and Ruble inflows onto retail foreign exchange markets, as well as a growing preference for Yuan over Dollars by Chinese traders. If this trend persists, it could help stabilize Tajikistan's external position.

¹⁴ Source: National Bank of Tajikistan, www.nbt.tj



However, over the 7 months of 2009, the Tajik Somoni has depreciated by some 27% (in nominal terms) against the Dollar and 18% against the Ruble.

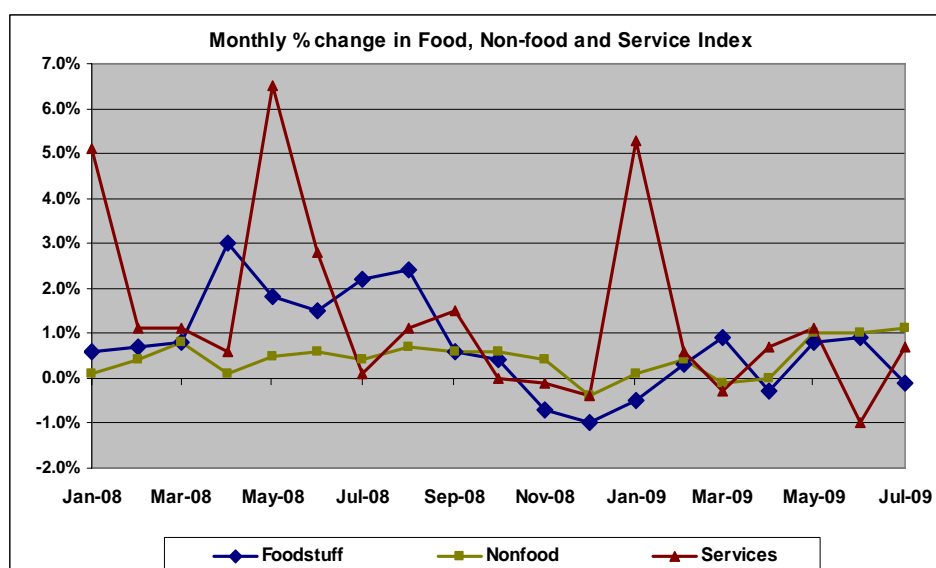
Consumer Price Index¹⁵

The currency depreciation, coupled with rising global oil prices, has exerted upward pressure on the consumer price index (CPI), even in the face of global deflationary pressures and sharp declines in the prices of Tajikistan's exports.

Despite strong global deflationary pressures, inflation remains high in Tajikistan. From the beginning of the year, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in Tajikistan has risen by 3.1%. This includes 2% on foodstuff, 3.5% on non-food and 7.1% on services. Between June and July 2009 the overall consumer price index increased by 0.3%, including 0.7% for services and 1.1% for non-food; foodstuff has insignificantly decreased by -0.1%.¹⁶ Monthly inflation has averaged 0.4% for the first 7 months of 2009, which is less than the average (1.4%) recorded for the same period of 2008. Nonetheless, consumer prices during January-July 2009 were some 9% higher than their levels of January-July 2008.

¹⁵ The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average price of consumer goods and services purchased by households

¹⁶ Data from National Bank of Tajikistan



V. FOOD & FUEL PRICES

According to the State Committee for Statistics, by the end of July 2009 price for individual consumer food basket made 93.76 TJS (22 USD) per individual, whereas the monthly nutritional requirement (defined based on survey from 2008 by State Committee on Statistics) should cost 181.68 TJS (41 USD).¹⁷

Food prices¹⁸

As the table below suggests, prices for rice, wheat flour, cotton oil, potatoes and pulses have decreased in some regions compared to June 2009, while remaining unchanged in others. According to data from WFP food security monitoring survey from July 2009, price for rice decreased by 8% in Dushanbe and Kurgan-Tyube. The price for wheat flour of 1st grade fell by 2-10% in Dushanbe, Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube. The price for potatoes decreased by 2-20% in Dushanbe, Gharm and Khorog. The price for cotton oil has decreased by 5-17% in Gharm and Kurgan-Tyube compared to June 2009.

Month on month percent change in food prices in July 2009 compared to June 2009					
Commodity	Dushanbe	Gharm	Khorog	Khujand	Kurgan-Tyube
Rice	-8.26	16.67	0.00	0.00	-7.69
Wheat Flour 1st grade	-4.88	0.00	4.76	-9.52	-2.38
Vegetable Oil	4.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cotton oil	0.00	-5.17	0.00	0.00	-16.67
Beef	1.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Potatoes	-2.44	-5.56	-20.00	0.00	0.00
Pulses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-12.50

¹⁷ "Socialno-ekonomicheskoe polozheniye Respubliki Tadjikistan", State Committee for Statistics, Republic of Tajikistan, July 2009, p.187

¹⁸ Food and Fuel prices were obtained from WFP Food Security Weekly Market Monitoring, Tajikistan

Milk	0.00	0.00	33.33	0.00	0.00
Eggs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Month on month percent change in food prices in July 2009 compared to June 2009					
Commodity	Dushanbe	Gharm	Khorog	Khujand	Kurgan-Tyube
Rice	▼	▲	▶	▶	▼
Wheat Flour 1st grade	▼	▶	▲	▼	▼
Vegetable Oil	▲	▶	▶	▶	▶
Cotton oil	▶	▼	▶	▶	▼
Beef meat	▲	▶	▶	▶	▶
Potato	▼	▼	▼	▶	▶
Pulses	▶	▶	▶	▶	▼
Milk	▶	▶	▲	▶	▶
Eggs	▶	▶	▶	▶	▶

According to data received from the State Statistical Committee of Tajikistan, in July 2009, Tajikistan has produced 41,000 tons of wheat, 6% more than in July 2008. The total amount of wheat produced from the beginning of the year is 289,000 tons, 5% more that was produced during the same period of last year. However, the production of vegetable oil decreased by 80% for the same period (86 tons compared to 414 tons produced last year). From the beginning of the year, the total amount of locally produced vegetable oil was 4425 tons, which is 32% less than during the same period of 2008.

According to WFP analysis, prices for wheat flour and potatoes have significantly decreased thanks to the start of the harvest season, which increased supply to local markets. The price for wheat also decreased thanks to the stabilization of the national currency rate against the USD and low import prices (15% decrease from January 2009 and 40% decrease in wheat price compared to July 2008). As for the price for cotton oil, WFP reports low demand, which also weakened price levels.

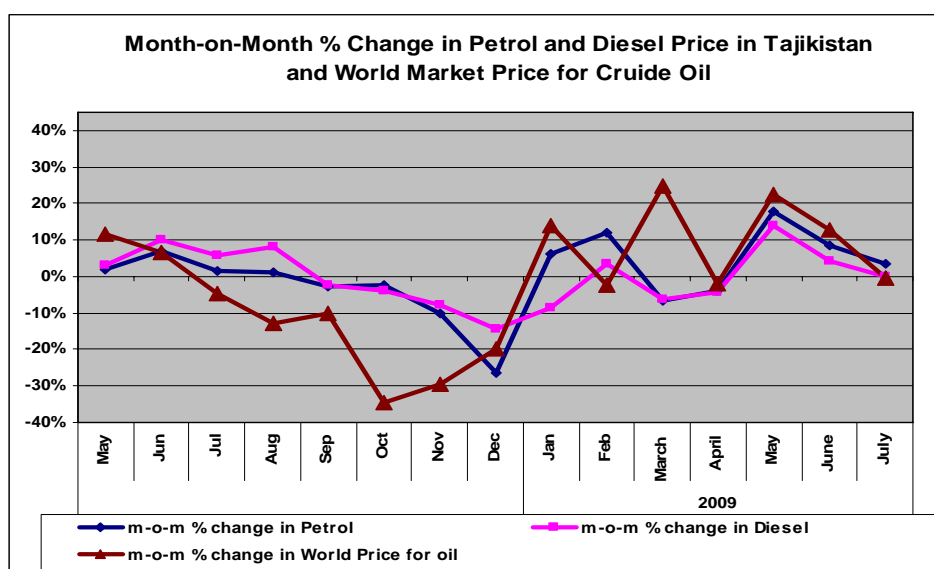
As the Muslims holly month of Ramadan is approaching, prices for main food are traditionally expected to increase. Ramadan starts on Friday, 20 August 2009 and in Khujand (North of Tajikistan) increase of prices for food is already observed.

Price for flour has increased by 5%, for beef by 7%, for eggs by 10%, for sugar by 6%, rice by 9% and for potato by 50%. The same tendency is also observed in Kanibadam district of Sughd province.

Fuel prices

Towards the end of July, the price for petrol in Tajikistan has increased by 3.5%. The price for diesel remained unchanged compared to June 2009, in line with the World Market price for oil. According to WFP's data, the average price for petrol in the country in July was 3.28 TJS (0.7 USD) per liter, and the average price for diesel was 3.04 TJS (0.6 USD) per liter.

From the beginning of the year, the world market price for oil has increased by 93%. In Tajikistan, for the same period, prices for petrol increased by 33% and diesel by 10%, exerting upward pressure on the CPI of Tajikistan.



As was reported by local media on 18 August 2009, prices for fuel in Dushanbe have increased by 7% (from 3.5-3.6 TJS to 3.8-3.9 TJS). This increase may push the food prices further up.

A source from the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade explains this by a 45% increase in taxes (USD 483 per one ton of fuel in August 2009 compared to USD 335 per 1 ton in January)¹⁹ as well as the decrease in supply from exporting countries and increased prices for fuel on the world market. On the world market, the price for oil has increased from USD 60 to USD 72 per barrel over the last 3 weeks (20%).²⁰

VI. AGRICULTURE

Cereal production from the 2008/9 first season is forecast at 0.94 million tons, without the second season maize and rice harvests. This figure is 25 percent above last year's annual estimate; and 9 percent above the average annual production of the previous five years.

Well-distributed and timely rainfall throughout the country, the continued use of improved seeds and a complete control of migratory pest threats plus probable increased fertilizer use compared to 2007/8, boosted average yields areas of first season cereals by 10% on an area 15% greater than last year.

FAO in Tajikistan reports that 0.83 million tons of wheat from 340,000 ha is expected in the first season. 20 % of cereal harvest of the poorer quality is likely to be used for animal feed.

¹⁹ <http://www2.asiaplus.tj/news/49/55941.html>

²⁰ http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_wco_k_w.htm

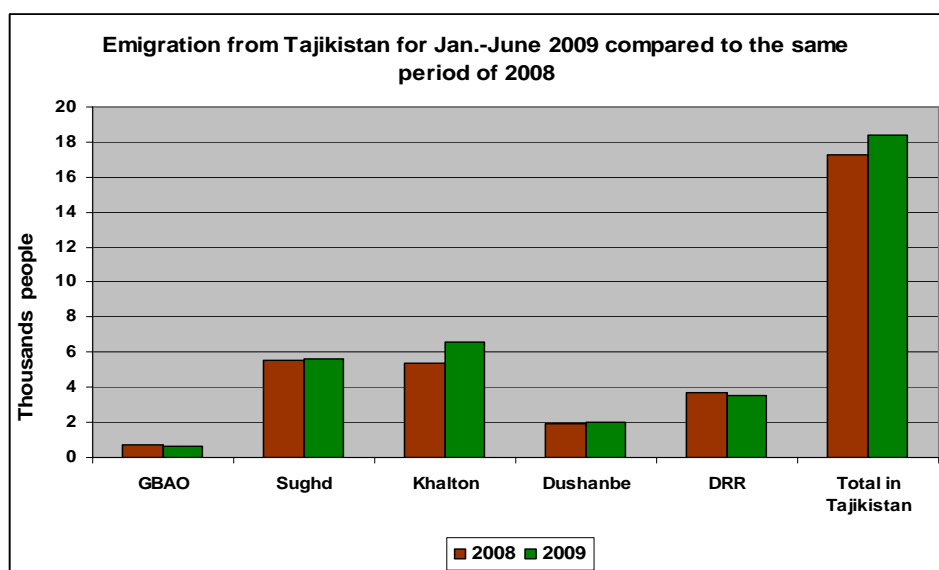
0.08 million tons of barley is expected to collect, which will be mostly used for animal feed. The remaining 0.03 million tons comprise rye, oats and early planted maize and small areas of early planted rice. The second season rice and maize crop will be assessed later in the year.

The continuing rainfalls in May-July 2009 delayed cotton sowing and caused replanting 10%-15% of the cotton sown lands in most districts. The cotton area is also noted to have been reduced by 30% as most of the area has been planted by wheat.

VII. MIGRATION & UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

During January-June 2009 more than 18,000 people officially emigrated from Tajikistan, which is 6% more than the figures registered for the same period of last year. The majority of the migrants left from the Directly Ruled Districts (DRD), Sughd and Khatlon provinces.²¹

Compared to the same period of last year, emigration from GBAO has decreased by 17%, and 4% from DRD. Labor migration from Khatlon has increased by 23%, from Dushanbe by 4% and Sughd by 1%.



The graph above suggests that, despite the uncertainties with regard to employment in the Russian Federation and other countries of the CIS, the emigration numbers do not seem to be declining. Although data on returning migrants to Tajikistan during past years is not available, it is unofficially observed that between the end of 2008 and the first couple of months of 2009, the number of returning migrants was bigger than in previous years.

Almost 25-30% of Tajik labor migrants could not go back to their workplace in Russia.²² If the above mentioned tendency persist the country's

²¹ Data is obtained from International Labor Organization office in Tajikistan

²² Statement made by Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Tajikistan, Mr. Shukurjon Zuhurov during the interview with Asia Plus from 27 July 2009

economy is not able to absorb this excess of workforce, the existing problem of widespread under- and unemployment will be aggravated for the next months.

As data from ILO shows, labor force in Tajikistan has increased by 4% for the first half of the year compared to 2008. The official number of registered unemployed people has reached 45,000. However, the unofficial figure may be much higher. The majority of unemployed people are women and people under 30 years old.

An additional factor negatively affecting the social situation in the country is the capacity of the national budget to react to the current economic downturn. The reduction in the state revenues and taxes collection limits the ability of the government to implement social programs and anti-crisis measures.

Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Tajikistan reports that the total amount of the Government's arrears to the population, in terms of wages and pensions, has increased. The State budget has been delaying the payment of TJS 25.6 million wages to State workers, an 11% increase compared to the same period of last year. The State budget also has arrears of about 35 million TJS to pay the pensions and benefit packages to elderly people of Tajikistan. This includes 11 million TJS to retirees of Sughd province (Isfara, Kanibadam, Asht, Spitamen, Istaravshan, Zafarabad, Mastchoh and Penjiket). 6 million TJS to retirees of the Kulyab district (Farkhor, Hamadoni and Vose).

One of the main reasons for this delay in payments is the difficulty for the Government to collect social taxes. In this regard, the Government of Tajikistan has appealed to support from international organizations, such as European Commission, for EURO 7.8 million.²³

VIII. HEALTH²⁴

Outbreak of Congo-Crimea hemorrhagic fever (CCHF)

On 27 July 2009, a case of hemorrhagic fever was reported in Tursunzoda district (60 kilometers west of Dushanbe). A week later, 4 secondary cases had been clinically confirmed, out of this cluster of cases three died. 24 more people who were in direct contact with the affected patients are currently under strict observation and care of physicians.

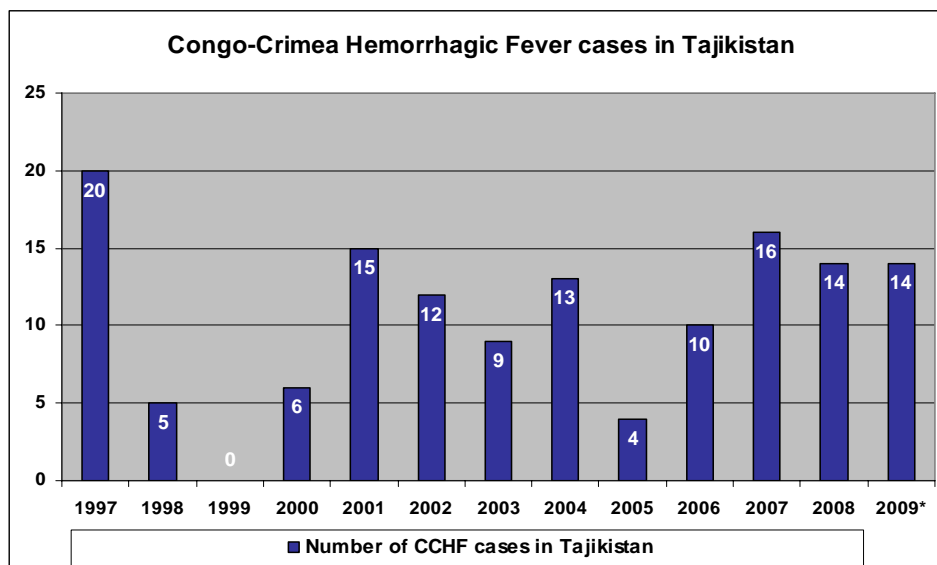
From the beginning of the year to the present the total number of confirmed cases in the country is 14.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), one of the symptoms of viral hemorrhagic fever is a febrile disease with bleeding disorders that can progress to shock and death in extreme cases. The WHO is currently assisting the Tajik SSESS (State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service) and MoH in actively managing the ongoing outbreak. An investigation mission was sent to the affected district and 11 mobile teams were dispatched to assess the situation in all household of the district.

WHO reports that this disease is endemic in many countries in Central Asia, including Tajikistan. Every year, cases of outbreaks are recorded in Tajikistan, mostly in the Kulyab zone and DRR. Fortunately, Tajikistan has an in-country capacity to control the disease.

²³ <http://www2.asiaplus.tj/news/40/55048.html>

²⁴ Data provided by World Health Organization Office in Tajikistan



* From the beginning of the year till 18 August 2009.

People who become infected with CCHF acquire the virus from direct contact with blood or other infected tissues from livestock, or are infected from a tick bite. The majority of cases concerns persons involved in the livestock industry, such as agricultural workers, slaughterhouse workers and veterinarians.

The mortality rate from CCHF is approximately 30%, with death occurring in the second week of illness. In those patients who recover, improvement generally begins on the ninth or tenth day after the onset of illness.

Typhoid

According to the Ministry of Health, cases of typhoid have doubled in the first half of 2009 compared to the same period of 2008. For this period, 338 cases of typhoid have been registered in the country. The main reasons of such tendency include the low quality of drinking water and sanitation services in some regions.

Most cases are registered in Rudaki (DRD) and Isafara (Sughd) districts. For a reminder, an outbreak occurred in Rudaki district in late March 2009; 106 residents were hospitalized with confirmed cases of typhoid. This outbreak was caused by the poor quality of drinking water people has consumed.²⁵

²⁵ <http://www2.asiaplus.tj/news/43/48852.html>