KEY DUTIES OF A COUNTRY’S ECONOMY RELATED TO NATIONAL DEFENSE IN CRITICAL TIMES

Bahruz MAMMADOV*
Elshan HASHIMOV**

* Assistant professor, Military Academy of Armed Forces, Deputy Head of Department of Ministry of Economy, Baku, Azerbaijan
**Professor, Military Academy of Armed Forces, Ministry of Defense, Baku, Azerbaijan

A country’s economy has a special role in a country’s defense. The organization of the national defense is carried out not only through the development of national armed forces, but also by increasing the sustainability of the economic activity for provision of the State and population demands during war. For this reason, development of the economic potential, taking necessary measures for preparation and sustainability of labor, material and financial resources are one of the significant issues and studying the conceptual, legal and economic issues related to the duties of the economy in the organization of state defense in Azerbaijan is very crucial.

Key words: special period, sustainability, economic potential, resources, mobilization, preparation, mobilization planning

1. INTRODUCTION

Under the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on “Defense”, the defense of the country is based on the fact that armed forces, economy, population, and the territory always shall be ready for protection and this is organized in compliance with a Military Doctrine of the State [9]. During mobilization and wartime, as well as during emergencies (hereinafter – in a special period/critical times) provision of sustainability of activity of the country economy, its spheres, possible economic-social facilities (hereinafter – country economy) stipulates the ability to maintain its operating capacity, mobilization within a short period of time and restoration of its activities considering the threats of a special period.

Main external factors violating the activity of the country in a special period are the following:

- Damaging the productive forces of the country and worsening their circumstances;
• Application of destructive means to the facilities of economic and social importance by the enemy;
• Deterioration of external economic relations and trade as a result of military and political factors [23].

Development of information technologies and its application in various spheres of the economy, creating new areas of economic activity and relations, development of finance and banking system make imminent internal threats occurred in a contemporary and a special period, along with traditional destructive factors.

According to the military doctrine of Azerbaijan preparation of public institutions, country economy, population and territories for protection is one of the significant actions taken in time of peace in the frame of the defense policy and covers the following directions:
• Ensuring mobilization preparation of the state authorities, self-governing bodies and organizations, economy and population for defense preparation in time of war;
• Preparation of the country economy to mobilization and conditions of wartime and preparing mobilization plans accordingly;
• Building, development and maintenance of productive capacities to meet demands and needs of the State, armed forces and other armed groups and of population in wartime;
• Creating reserve points of public institutions, self-governing bodies and organizations and preparing for conditions of war [13].

The relevant state policy based on forecasting of a special period and its planning, as well as measures for ensuring economic sustainability of the economy in that period and for increasing capacity. Taking into consideration the abovementioned, it is necessary to prepare economy to conditions of war in advance in peacetime, protect productive forces of the country from enemy’s destructive means, prepare and implement special norms, rules and preconditions, complex institutional and engineering and technical measures addressed to restoration of the damaged economic activity in a short time through comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the existed military-political situation, the possible (predictable) economic situation during military operations for increasing economic sustainability of the country in a special period.

2. CONCEPTUAL APPROACH TO THE PREPARATION OF THE COUNTRY ECONOMY FOR A SPECIAL PERIOD

Studying economic processes of the defense of the country encapsulates various levels and degrees. The defense of economy at macro, mezzo and micro levels explore defense and security, military and economic capacity of the State, mobilization preparation of the country economy, execution of military duties and services, building
military cooperation, economic basis of wartime and armed conflicts, as well as security, wars and relationships between economic interests [6].

Mobilization preparation of the national economy as one of the defense economy includes evaluation, preparation and mobilization of economic resources (labor, material and financial resources) for a special period, also studying measures undertaken for increasing sustainability of the country activity during that period.

Main purpose of ensuring sustainability of the country economy for a special period is continuous and complete provision of the country, society, and people in accordance with specifically determined goals (goals, interests and ambitions), real labor, finance and material resources (economic resources). Key principles, duties of different institutes and preparation as well as mobilization mechanisms for mobilization of defense resources and ensuring preparation for this purpose, generally are regulated by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on “Mobilization Preparation and Mobilization in Azerbaijan”. Under this Law Preparedness activity – means a complex of activities carried out at peace time for preparation of the economy, executive authorities, local governments and organizations of Azerbaijan Republic, Azerbaijan Republic Armed Forces and other armed units provided in the legislation, as well as, special state bodies established by the relevant executive authority and special units established for wartime, for the purpose of defense of the state against any armed attack and provision of demands of the state and needs of the population at wartime.

The main directions of the concept of preparedness of the economy: effective usage, maintenance and development of economic potential of provision of demands of the state and needs of the population at wartime; preparation, mobilization and creating special reservations of labor, material and financial resources, as well as, ensuring directions of sustainability of the activity of country economy. In accordance with this Law, legal regulation and organizing in the field of mobilization preparation and mobilization carried out by the Cabinet of Ministers [10]. Thus, obligations of the government in this field are the followings:

- Developing national supply system of readiness of the economy, stable operation of these systems and provision of continuous control over the organization, developing legal and normative framework, as well as preparing regulator and normative documents for mobilization of the country economy, public institutions, self-governing bodies and organizations;

- Regulation of the economy, including stable and efficient
operation of the financial, tax and currency systems in special period;

• Development and execution of mobilization plan for the economy, relevant plans for state and self-governing bodies, organizations;

• Provision of demands of the Armed Forces, other armed units, and needs of the population at wartime, as well as the creation of mobilization forces in the areas of manufacturing to ensure creating important product and services for sustainable economic activity;

• Establishment, accumulation, maintenance and re-supply of mobilization and state reserves of material resources, as well as, untouchable reserve of foodstuffs and oil products;

• Establishment and maintenance of a reserve fund of documents regarding to arms and military equipment, important civil products, highly dangerous objects, systems of vital importance for population and objects deemed to be national wealth;

• Development of technical equipment for the purposes of including in or using in the interest of armed forces, other armed units, as well as formation and training of special units;

• Establishment and preparation for functioning at wartime conditions of reserve control points of governmental authorities, local governments and organization, in accordance with the established conditions;

• Reservation of military officials for a special period.

3. EFFECTIVE USE, PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

Effective use, maintenance and development of economy in time of peace and wartime are important elements for sustainability of the special period. Consequently, this issue is reflected not only in economic development concepts of the country, but also in other strategic documents of military importance. According to the Law on economic capacity building, ensuring economic stability and efficient use of financial resources are included to the national interests of the country in the field of economy [11]. Furthermore, under the National Security Concept of Azerbaijan, economic dependence and economic destabilization are considered threats to the national security [14]. The significance of this for a special period is that economic capacity, economic structure of the country, geographical location of important economic and social facilities, and their sustainability in the respective period, effective allocation and using of resources, and other issues require advance assessment, planning and preparation from the perspective of provision of demands and needs of the State and population. Thus, failure to develop necessary production facilities and import opportunities considering the demands of a special period, not placing productive forces and field considering compatible threats, and failure to provide
sustainability of important economic and social facilities in comply with scenarios finally give rise to serious challenges in provision of defense needs. In a special period, in order to ensure economic sustainability it is necessary to take the following measures:

- Evaluation and development of economic and production capacity in accordance with the demands of needs of a special period;
- Development of sectoral and territorial structure of economy;
- Ensuring and maintenance of important economic and social facilities;
- Development of capabilities to restore the activity and rapid mobilization of important economic and social facilities [21].

3.1. Assessment and development of economic potential

The economic potential refers to economic-productive activity of the economy, as well as the activity carried out by its areas objects and persons, production, rendering services, provision of the public and population demands, and ensuring the development of production and consumption [26]. While assessing the economy it is necessary to evaluate the following key aspects affecting the economic power:

- Material resources: natural resources potential, manufacturing, service facilities and infrastructure;
- Human resources: population, demography, military and economic personnel (or forces), additional

Sources for involvement of labor Resources, and employment procedures and etc.;
- Developing and applying the high technologies: productive scientific innovations are very significant resources. The application of scientific innovations to economy is one of those aspects that increase effectiveness. Therefore, applying fundamental and practical researches in different areas of economy and testing the innovations and their application to the production pave the for increasing the economic potential;
- Climate and geographical position: the air temperature, humidity and other similar factors affect the production potential. In addition, the existence of internal and external transport corridors increases the transit capacity of the country. Simultaneously, the availability of high transport capacity is very important not only for increasing the importance of the country for the region, but also for rapid mobilization of resources during war and economic crisis;
- International relations affecting the increasing the economic potential: the export capacity and the existence of production areas ensuring the money flow to the country are one of the significant factors seriously affecting the economic potential. Also, import of the products that do not exist in the country, attracting foreign grants and investments are valuable also from the perspective of the participation in the, international division of labor;
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- Manufacturing capabilities and its efficiency: Natural and value, additional value and its structures are important indicators that characterize the economic potential. From one hand, added value in resource efficiency and indicators such as energy capacity demonstrates the quality of the country’s economy [4].

  On the other hand, the indicators mentioned above are not sufficient for the assessment of the country’s economic activity during the war. When assessing the economic potential in war the following factors are of utmost importance for taking into consideration:

- Public support to the activity of the ensuring the defense. This mainly covers the issues in relation to more ideological propaganda and society’s enthusiasm;

- Economic conversion. The opportunities of peacetime economy to be operational in wartime conditions are factors affecting the economic potential. So, the economy failed to rapidly adapt to the conditions of wartime cannot use if its potential efficiently. This type of economic model was more characteristic for the USSR;

- Macro-economic stability. Investing in the frame of the programs applied in wartime (conversion of the industry, creation of industrial enterprises of defense importance and etc.), and modifications in the structure of consuming and production can be accompanied with sharp dynamics in monetary indicators;

- Civil demands. One of other crucial issues during war is creating a balance by minimizing the large-scale civil demands with regard to manufacturing and consuming of products of defense importance. Such minimizing is done either at the expense of conversion of production of such needs, or by reducing the populations’ income [5].

3.2. Improvement of the sectoral and territorial structure of the country economy

Taking into consideration special demands, norms and rules during the military operations addressing to reduce damages to sectoral and territorial structures, while ensuring their improvement, along with economic and social factors are issues of utmost importance. In addition, while preparing comprehensive and detailed plans for social and economic development, schemes on placement of productive forces, and programs about development of major regions and areas of economic importance, also a placement of important territorial production complexes the following aspects should be taken into consideration:

- Prioritizing the areas of significant civil production;

- Clustering of significant industries aimed at the local resources and the latest data product;

- The rational allocation of production resources, taking into account the volume and potential economic regions across the country;

- Application of effective technology;
• Improving and increasing internal and external economic and trade relations;
• Confining the concentration expansion of large cities, industry, material resources, and high-risk facilities in cities such;
• Use of underground space of cities and mountainous areas to accommodate the specific manufacturers of products and objects of importance of defense;
• Duplication of objects of particular importance, and specific production areas sensitive to external threats [28].

The development of sectoral and territorial economy based on the factors considered above, allows to achievement of sustainability for a special period. Relevant criteria in time of peace are important from the point of effective and efficient development of economy.

Strengthening the state activities in emergency situations and maintain the functionality of infrastructures of vital importance to the extent necessary in emergency situations are one of the priorities in Azerbaijan [1].

4. PREPARING, MOBILIZING AND CREATING SPECIAL RESERVATIONS OF LABOR, MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Every defense system fails to achieve concrete results without being able to mobilize economic resources [3]. Resources are the combination of set of tools or resources that the country possesses and uses for achieving the execution of particular duties. But in the literature on fundamental economics, the economic resources mean as resources being necessary means for ensuring the production are divided into natural (raw materials), labor (human resources), investment (private equity), turnover means (materials), information resources, and finance (capital in the form of money) [27].

Theoretically in order to obtain any resources it is necessary to have a strategy on possession and mobilization. The mobilization of resources itself includes the organization of effective use of all type of resources and management methods and technologies to achieve the goals [22].

While assessing the wartime conditions, it is possible to observe the absence of significant differences in the amount of the existing resources available in the country, and that there are changes in their flow directions and centers of interest. So, in peacetime if the main factors forming the structure of demands and proposals related to provision of high quality of life, in wartime the priorities more or less interlinked whether the current production is sufficient for support the war process and provision of necessary consumption of the population [17]. It is not surprisingly that preparation and mobilization
of labor, material and financial resources for the wartime are ensured on the basis of this concept. Under the military doctrine of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the needed capacities for effective solution of the problems encountered and existed in Azerbaijan shall be developed in accordance with the human, financial and other resources available for the country [13].

4.1. Preparation of labor resources of the country economy for special period

Preparation and mobilization of labor resources for wartime are only one part of the complex of measures for the mobilization preparation of the economy. This should be taken into account that during wartime complex of measures in relation to human resources undertaken by the State is very diverse and multi-staged process; there assessment of the potential, forecasting of possible losses in various scenarios, a compilation of balance of labor resources, provision of the economy with human resources, and preparing plans are significant issues. In addition, the other obligation of the State here is to take measures with regard the following field in a peacetime:

- Evaluation of labor market of the country for a wartime and mobilization preparation of able bodied forces;
- Training of personnel in necessary fields important for wartime;
- Reservation in wartime the high-level and necessary staff of the important fields of the economy;
- Determining the set of rules of labor and salaries for a wartime;
- Defense of labor resources in war [21].

According to the national laws, with regard to military and emergency situations, an employee shall be permitted to perform overtime in order to prevent a natural disaster, industrial accident, or other emergency events, or to eliminate their consequences, as well as to prevent the loss of perishable goods, and the work place of that employee is preserved [7]. Furthermore, for ensuring sustainable activity of the country economy in wartime the special list of necessary duties and professions are prepared, military officials, executives, scientists and cultural workers, skilled workers and employees working in organization and institutions that are assigned to mobilize, are respite in advance in accordance with the pre-arranged events [20]. Also, provision of human resources is carried out in the frame of the state programs through learning the demands of the country economy in relation to wartime.

Defense of the country population and labor forces from the enemy’s destructive attacks are one of the priority duties of the State. The key principles, methods and means of defense of all categories of the population are regulated by the legal and normative acts of Azerbaijan on civil defense. The
main duties ensuring the preparation and implementation of life insurance of the population in wartime are as follows:

- Preparing size, nomenclature and normative about provision of the people with necessary goods and means of first necessity in wartime and preparing and realizing those stuff considering the categories of the population (according to the ability to work and age), type of the work, its importance and other factors;
- Determining (forecasting) the needs and services for population (goods, needs of first necessity, electricity, natural gas, heating, water and other public utilities and other services) in accordance with the volume (size), nomenclature and normative for the wartime);
- Assessment (forecasting) of the system of life insurance in accordance with the volume, nomenclature and normative for wartime and taking measures for provision of demands;
- Temporarily placement of the staff of the facilities of economic and social importance evacuated during emergencies and provision of first level life insurance.

4.2. Mobilization of material resources and reservation of special resources

The change in the balance of the production capacity of the country in wartime leads to obstacles in meeting the needs in raw and component materials. So, taking into consideration the limitation of some resources and import of the most of them, for meeting the demands in wartime determining the relevant measures (improvement of the reserves, creating the reserves, and preparing import scenarios and etc.) are main duties of the State. For determining the noted issues in advance it is necessary to make planning of balance of materials and supplies for wartime [4].

During the period of deficiency occurred in the wartime due to the competition among producers and wartime conditions the access to raw materials may be accompanied by a price rise and the execution of production plans prepared on the basis of mutual obligations can face with difficulties. Therefore, most economists consider it is necessary to take the obligation by the State to regulate the distribution and usage of raw and component materials during the war times [17].

One of the measures addressed to the increasing the sustainability of the activity of the county economy in war is the creation of material assets in the state reserve. The mobilization and State reserves in Azerbaijan are special fund for ensuring the stable activity of the country economy, meeting the defense and mobilization needs and for wealth intended to be used during emergencies. Main duties of the State in the field of concern are the activity in relation to determining the size, nomenclature
and places of material resources, creating, refreshing and removal from reserve, considering the threats on various scenarios, important needs of the State and the population, economic, security and time factors of the measures are to be taken in war [19]. Main goal of material resources reservation is to meet the urgent needs of the armed forces and population in wartime conditions; to ensure the work of important economic and social facilities and restore the destructed work; to take rescue, procurement and other measures; to eliminate the results of emergencies for peacetime; to invest the material market to ensure the stable activity of the country economy; and to ensure humanitarian aid.

4.3. Allocation of financial resources in special periods

Financing the needs of the country economy, armed forces of Azerbaijan and the population is an issue of utmost importance. It is not accidental that while analyzing the legislative acts of other countries, including Kazakhstan, Moldova and others, we can see that there are legal acts about not only special mobilization plans for ensuring the sustainability of the economy in wartime, but also special provisions about preparing the draft of the State budget for the first year of the war, adoption by the respective Parliaments, and specification if it is necessary to do so [12]. Financial and material provisions of increasing the sustainability of the country economy in wartime are determined by the legislative acts and norms of that particular country. Then it is necessary to develop common (or single) accountability principle for preparation, implementation and financing the action plans for the executive bodies.

In accordance with the national legislation, the source of the established funds for measures for mobilization preparation and their implementation in Azerbaijan is a State budget [18].

Main duties of the State with respect to preparing and mobilizing the financial resources are as follows:
- Budget planning to continuously meet the military needs in special period;
- Directing the country’s financial and credit funds to finance military production;
- The mobilization of all financial resources available to meet the budgetary costs;
- Research and attracting new sources of funding;
- Settlement and sustainable system of money transfers;
- Implementation of measures in wartime in relation to financing of the areas of special defense;
- Execution of control over the rapid flow of money and over circulation of financial resources out of the country;
- Creating financial resources of the country in advance during a peace time.
5. ENSURING DIRECTIONS
OF SUSTAINABILITY
FOR COUNTRY ECONOMY

Under the military doctrine of Azerbaijan mobilization and preparation of the country economy for wartime is an integral part of the defense policy of the country [13]. The mobilization and preparation of the country economy to war cover the principles on creating the capacity of the economy to operate and ensuring its development and sustainability in order to meet the needs of the State and population.

Ensuring the sustainability of the economic system of the country for wartime stipulates preparation and implementation of the state policy meeting all expected challenges of the war conditions. In accordance with the national laws and strategic political documents, ensuring the sustainability of the economic system of the country necessitates the preparation of national systems about mobilization preparation of the economy, as well as public bodies, self-governing organizations, and institutions, and economic regulatory systems for wartime to sustainable and effective operation. Additionally, drafting and execution of preparatory measures in important economic and social objects at the institutional level.

5.1. Developing state administration system

The structure and duties of all branches of the Government with regard to the management of the economy in war are regulated by the legislation and regulations governing their activities. Mobilization preparation and mobilization in the country are carried out on the basis of the principles of centralized administration, advance preparation, planned work and control, complex approach and mutual agreement. Under the national laws, the organization and rules about mobilization preparation and mobilization of public bodies, local self-governing institutions, armed forces and other armed unites are carried out by the President of Azerbaijan [10].

In wartime, the relevant management by the state and self-governing institutions in relation to the country economy are carried out in accordance with the mobilization plans. During the wartime, state and self-governing bodies within their competences shall supervise the territorial and sectoral areas of the country economy, adapt and transfer to the wartime work conditions according to the instructions given. In wartime, the sustainability of the management of the country economy is carried out through the following ways:

- Developing the management system of the rationally placed across the country and technically equipped protected reserve facilities located in suburban areas and in the city;
- Creating the collection and processing of carrying out the communication, warning and
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necessary information and training systems;

- Implementation of complex measures for the development of organizational and staff structure to adaptation to work under the war condition and to operation under the specific work schedule;
- Collecting, processing and transferring the information important for the management in wartime, as well as preparation and implementation of complex of measures for their security;
- Training of administrative personnel and necessary staff for war conditions;
- Creating an archive of documents on important civil products, objects of high risk, systems of life importance and objects of public wealth;
- Advance preparing of the complex normative and methodological documents determining the activity in war conditions [23].

5.2. Economic policy tools: the necessary means for special times preparation

Stopping inflation, balancing the budget, taxes and customs, mobilization for a war, conscription, foreign aids, and current problems like bankruptcy protection are inalienable part of the economic management in a special period. War economy defines tasks for the national economy, including agriculture, forestry and water management, production and processing industry, transportation, communications, power engineering, public utilities, wholesale trade and retail, finance and bank accounting, international trade [4]. Therefore, it is necessary to use economic regulation instruments in price (tariff), antimonopoly, foreign trade relations, domestic trade, minimum salary, and maximum work hours, production control, fiscal and monetary policy, and other areas of the economy. This regulation instruments are indirectly (fiscal and monetary) and directly (salary, price and etc.) regulation instruments.

Main priority of financial policy in a special period is the allocation of necessary financial resources for ensuring goods and services for armed forces and a State. In addition, there are other significant tasks of the financial policy in a special period. They are as follows:

- Protection of production incentives;
- Facilitating the shift of output from civilian to military uses;
- Equitable distribution of both the real and money costs of the war among various groups in the nation;
- Preventing inflation, or at least limiting its extent, both during and following the military effort [17].

On one hand, the preparation of indirect management tools itself includes ensuring the stable budget revenues and the use of debt instruments in wartime; meeting the military needs by reducing the budget expenses taking into account the minimum consuming demands of the population; involvement of credits
for meeting the needs; ensuring the stability of money flow; reliable performance of foreign payments; and restrictions of crediting to protect the population’ incomes.

On the other hand, in order to implement a more complete and continuous security of material resources and to prevent the price increase in wartime, it is necessary to use direct regulation like defining limits on goods and service prices and wages as defined by the nomenclature [4].

5.3. The preparation at micro-economic level

In wartime, the specific duty of enterprises and organizations is to fulfill the mobilization assignments (orders) in accordance with the relevant agreements to ensure mobilization preparation and mobilization. The relevant legislation determines binding duties for the organizations regardless of their structure of ownership. So, the organizations, able to fulfill mobilization assignments (orders) according to their production capacity in cases when it would necessary to extend the production due to the mobilization are not entitled to withdraw from the contracts about fulfillment of those assignments (orders). Furthermore, by the laws the State is responsible for compensation for the damages caused to the organizations as a result of the fulfillment of such assignments (orders) [15].

The organizations that are obliged to fulfill the mobilization assignments, have undertaken duties not only before the State but also before those organizations while preparing for wartime. In wartime, public bodies and organization assigned to get mobilized take measures for preparation of defense industry facilities and those producing important civil products, technologies in those facilities to be used in wartime, ties of production cooperation, special technological lines and production processes; documents important for wartime, personnel and employees; strategic raw materials supporting the production process, as well as material and financial resources [24]. Alike, it is necessary to conduct measures for implementation of scientific-research and project works on increasing effectiveness of a the public bodies activities, creating reserve objects on supply with transportation, energy, natural gas and water, preparing and improving the normative about supplement of consuming energy, natural gas and water in wartime, preparing and improving the relevant legislation about mitigating and stimulating the activity of the organizations to be mobilized.

6. CONCLUSIONS

Developing economic potential, preparation of labor, material and financial resources, mobilization of administration, regulation tools and
skills are important tasks before the state in the direction of increasing the economical sustainability for the special period.

With the aim of efficient fulfillment of related duties the economic potential should be evaluated and development priorities should be properly determined in compliance with the needs and possible challenges of the special period. Alongside with this, the sector and area structure of the country economy should be improved basing on the effects of resource, transport, concentration and safety criteria.

The material and financial resources that are important elements of the economic system should be mobilized and allotted basing on the conception of continuous support of the war process at the special period situation and meeting the necessary need of the population.

Conduct of state regulation over working out the material balance, procurement planning, allocation and use of strategic materials, as well as creation of the state material reserves assume significant importance for provision of sustainable material turnover in the economy at the special period.

Alongside with this, ensuring the sustainability of the financial system of the state at the special period makes it important planning of the budget means, prioritizing the expenses, mobilization of all possible means, control over financial currency and monetary circulation, as well as creation of the strategic reserves.

For preparation of the labor resources there is a need in staff training in necessary economical spheres, booking of the highly – skilled and necessary personnel through evaluating the labor market of the state at the special period, also establishment of norms and mechanisms regulating labor relations at the relevant period, undertaking the labor resources protection measures.

For provision of the sustainability of the state economic system at the special period, there is a need in forming the state policy that meets the expectable possible challenges at that period, improving the readiness of the state systems of economical mobilization, determination of economic and administrative regulation tools according to the specificities of the relevant period, ensuring the readiness of important economic and social objects to sustainable and efficient activity at the special period.

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