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Azerbaijani people comprise of 70% of the workers to be employed in the construction of Baku-Tbilisi-Kars Railway in Georgian region

70% of the workers to be employed in the construction of the railway within the borders of Georgia within the scope of Baku-Tbilisi-Kars (BTK) railway project will be the Azerbaijani people living in the said country. Marketing Manager of the project's contractor company Azerinsaatservis LLC. İlkin İmamaliyev made a statement in this regard.

According to I.Imamaliyev, no opinion is expressed in the contract about the employment of the people living in the land of construction by the contractor company.

The company representative denied the news that Georgian Armenians living in Ahalkalaki would be employed in the construction of the railway by Azerinsaatservis LLC.

It should also be noted that Azerinsaatservis LLC. is planning to construct a railway of 29 km long from Ahalkalaki to Kartsahi located at Georgia-Turkey border for the BTK (Baku-Tbilisi-Kars) line.

The final contract on the construction of the BTK line was signed on February, 8 2007 in Tbilisi between Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey. It should be reminded that the construction works of the new railway commenced on November, 21 2007. For the construction of the railway section in Georgia, Azerbaijan gave a loan equal to US\$ 200.000 to Marabda-Kartsahi Railways LLC. under privileged conditions (1% annual interest for 25 years). In this context, a new railway of 29 km long within the borders of Georgia and a train wheel replacement site within the borders of Turkey will be constructed. Besides, the old railway shall be reconstructed. The total value of the project is more than US\$ 600.000.

It is planned that the railroad shall be put into operation until mid-2011. On the other hand, within the borders of Turkey, a new railway line of 76 km long from Georgia border to Kars will be constructed as well.