IMPORTANT CHANGES IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF UZBEKISTAN DURING THE YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE (ON THE EXAMPLE OF JIZZAKH REGION)

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the researcher describes the socio-economic reforms in Jizzakh region during the years of independence, the problems and shortcomings in the transition to a market economy in the region, as well as extensive work to address them in the scientific literature, archives and statistics, analyzed on the basis of data.

KEY WORDS: independence, reforms, Jizzakh, economy, social life, industry, production, product, investments, joint ventures, services.

INTRODUCTION

Jizzakh region is one of the most important regions in the socio-economic and cultural life of Uzbekistan. Today the effect of large-scale reforms in all spheres in the independent republics can be seen in the example of Jizzakh region.

In fact, Jizzakh region is located in the central part of Uzbekistan, bordering the Republic of Kazakhstan and Syrdarya region in the north-east, the Republic of Tajikistan in the southeast, Samarkand region in the southwest and Navoi region in the west. The nature of the region is extremely rich and diverse, with all the opportunities for increasing the production of agriculture, livestock, industrial products, as well as the development of services and tourism [3, Page 9]. The area of Jizzakh region is 21.1 thousand square meters. According to the administrative-territorial division, it consists of 12 rural districts, 7 cities subordinate to districts, 8 towns and 561 villages. According to 1992 data, the region has a population of 807.4 thousand people. On average of 40 people fell to the ground [4,Page 12] According to statistics, the population of the region as of January 1, 2019 amounted to 1352.1 thousand people, an increase over the beginning of the year by 27.1 thousand people or 102.0% [1, Page1].

Now, because of independence, in our whole country, including Jizzakh region, has the opportunity to move the economy, production relations from a command-and-control and planned economy to a free, market economy. The peculiar way of forming market relations in the conditions of our country, the way of life of our people is defined in the work of the First President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov "Uzbekistan - a peculiar way of transition to market relations" and in speeches and speeches in Parliament was given.

Analyzing the first years of our independence, the economy has been begun to radically reform in order to organize a socially orientated market economy in Jizzakh city. The legal basis for economic reforms was the laws, decrees and resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan [5, Page 11]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the years of independence, some sectors of the economy of Jizzakh region have been studied by scientists in various fields. In particular, the issue of "Development of production cooperation of small enterprises with large enterprises in Jizzakh region" was studied by M.A.Aynakulov, also Z.N.Tojieva's research partially studied the socio-economic problems of population growth and location in the region, researcher J.X.Bobonazarova analysed problems on decreasing unemployment of women who live village in Jizzakh region. What is more, A.Berdikulov carried out research on the restructuring of enterprises in the construction materials industry in the region.
The history of socio-economic development of Jizzakh region in 1991-2009 was briefly analyzed by such researchers as H. Haydarov, K. Usmanov, A. Tashkentboev and U. Nosirov. A comparative analysis of the above literature shows that the history of socio-economic life of Jizzakh region during the years of independence has not been studied by researchers as a special topic from a historical and scientific point of view.

RESULTS

When we study the archival data in order to assess the socio-economic situation in the Jizzakh region in the beginning of independence years in 1991-1992, we can see that the implementation of reforms has become more complicated. Not only is stated about the work done by the members of the Standing Committee, but also a number of shortcomings are listed in the report of the Regional Council of People’s Deputies, the Standing Committee on Construction, Building Materials Industry, Road Construction, Housing, Utilities and Landscaping. In particular, the report states that the transfer of regional administration, first to the Councils and then to the governors, slowed down the work of the commission, as a result of which the commission members did not fully participate in the meetings. It is noted that when some of them participated, only they attended little proposal and view, furthermore, adopted resolutions could not be controlled in time. [2, Page 76]. However, in 1991, capital money 356.7 million sums were disbursed, 203.5 million sums were spent on building work. This construction and installation work 89 and 84% of the plan were carried out. During this period, 255 thousand square meters of housing of which 146 thousand square meters were private housing, were given to use. In addition, schools for 5900 students, a kindergarten for 1375 places, hospitals for 157 places, a polyclinic and 100 limited liability companies with state shares were privatized in Jizzakh region and the capacity of which 146 thousand square meters was increased. In order to solve the housing demand, 61.4 thousand square meters was built, which is 38 thousand square meters less than planned. In addition, in 1992, 60 seat kindergartens were built less than planned. Only 6,300 seat schools, 1,270 seat kindergartens, and 200 bed hospitals were planned to be built in the region, which was a too small amount compared to the demand. In the region 40 million bricks were produced, which is 4.5 times less than the current demand. Due to insufficient state funding for construction, the construction of schools, kindergartens and hospitals, which are planned to be built in the future at the expense of enterprises and organizations, farms and further development of local production of building materials was proposed by members of the Standing Committee [2, Page 80].

State property was gradually privatized in the conditions of transition to a market economy. When we talk about the changes in the socio-economic sphere in the region, we must first talk about the privatization process, which is the most important part of the reforms. Initially, retail trade, service and small local industrial enterprises, and the housing stock were nationalized. State-owned apartments were privatized free of charge to war veterans, teachers and researchers, engineers, medical and cultural workers.

If we pay attention to the privatization process, it is clear that in 1992-1994, shops, service facilities and small businesses were sold to employees of the company. In 1994, 334 objects and in 1995 81 objects were processed in the processing and agro-industrial, construction, industry, transport, communications, social spheres [3, Page 39].

In 1994-2005, a total of 2,607 state-owned facilities were privatized in Jizzakh region and the city of Jizzakh. As a result of the privatization process, the state budget received more than 382.8 million sums. Medium and large enterprises were transformed into joint-stock companies. As a result of these important changes, 263 joint-stock companies and 100 limited liability companies with state shares were established in Jizzakh region [6, Page 213].

It is known that the economic stability of the territory of any country, which is directly related to the volume of gross regional product, its growth. In this regard, in the end of 2014, we can see that the gross regional product of the region amounted to 3.2 trillion sums, which increased 108.6% more than in 2013. The volume of production increased by 4 times compared to 2007. Large-scale structural and
qualitative changes in the regional economy have laid the groundwork for significant growth in the real sector and services. During this period, positive changes have been achieved in the structure of the gross regional product of the region. In particular, the share of industry in the gross regional product of the region in 2007 was 7.9%, in 2014 it was 10.3% and increased by 2.4 points.

Thus, according to separate programs of the Cabinet of Ministers, the total cost of the region is 670 billion sums. 888 projects worth 14605 million sums were implemented and 14,605 new jobs were created. In 2007-2014, commercial banks will provide a total of 205 billion sums for the implementation of regional industrial projects. sums were allocated. The implementation of such projects in the industrial sector has led to an increase in the role of industry in the regional economy.

It should be noted that in 2014, the region produced 229,085 tons of raw cotton and 70.2 thousand tons of cotton fiber, of which 25.5 thousand tons or 36.3% were processed. In 2007, this figure was only 6%. In 2015, there were 4 enterprises for the production of yarn, 2 for weaving, 1 for dyeing fabrics, 244 for the production of garments, 2 for the production of socks [9].

In Jizzakh, a joint venture Jizzakh Plast Tex was established on the site of a former sock weaving factory, equipped with the latest equipment imported from Germany, Switzerland and Turkey for $ 54 million. It produces 10.5 thousand tons of yarn a year and 4,000 tons of fabric weaving capacity. On the basis of the former 50th motor depot in Gallaor district of the region, the enterprise "Nargiza Tex" was established, producing 850,000 pieces of ready garments a year.

Considering the economic changes in the region, emphasizing the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev dated January 10, 2019 "On the development of an effective model of state regulation and management of integrated development of Jizzakh region" is necessary.

According to this decree, from March 1, 2019 in Jizzakh region was implemented a test project which was called "Advanced Territory". The main purpose of this was to develop important strategic goals for the rapid development of the region, to create the necessary conditions to increase the competitiveness of products and services produced in the region [7, Page 38].

Recent developments in Jizzakh include Pan Mun See who is a professor at Seoul National University in March 2020, Lee Yang who is director of a pharmaceutical plant for antiviral drugs, and Mee Song who is director of producing a medical plaster plant. As a result of negotiations with the Korean delegation of investors, agreements were signed to invest $ 10 million in the production of antiviral drugs and medical plaster in the “Zomin Free Economic Zone”.

At a time when the pandemic is spreading around the world, it is very important to establish pharmaceutical companies that meet European standards, which is unique in Central Asia [8, Page 247].

CONCLUSIONS

Jizzakh region has many economic opportunities which are not used. These are:
- Convenient investment condition in the country (having availability of tax, customs and other benefits for foreign investors);
- There are more than 70 deposits in the region and these natural resources are not yet used fully;
- Favorable economic and geographical location of the region (proximity to the center of the Republic, economically developed regions such as Samarkand and Navoi);
- Well-established transport infrastructure (modern M-39 international highway and railway instead of the ancient Silk Road);
- Others such as cheap labour.

During the years of independence, in the Republic of Uzbekistan and including Jizzakh region, on the basis of deepening economic reforms, efficient use of natural resources in solving socio-economic problems arising in the transition to a market economy, the establishment of competitive raw materials, reforms aimed at the development of such sectors as construction and agriculture are being implemented. Based on the above data, we can say that one of the main tasks is to ensure a decent standard of living for the population in the deepening of economic reforms in the region by the denationalization and privatization of property, the creation of market infrastructure, the use of existing opportunities for small and private entrepreneurship, the export of competitive products to world markets and the creation of new jobs.

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