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**SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SURKHANDARYA REGION
 DURING THE YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE**

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ABSTRACT

This article provides a scientific analysis of the large-scale reforms in the socio-economic sphere in the Surkhandarya oasis during the years of independence and their social significance. Also, in today's era of globalization, the integration of the world economy and, on this basis, the expansion of cooperation in the economic sphere, reforms and changes in the socio-economic sphere have been scientifically analyzed.

KEYWORDS: *Socio-economic development, Industrial enterprises, Sherabad, Jarkurgan cement processing enterprises, Shurchi grain products enterprise, Shargun-Boysun coal deposits, socio-demographic development.*

INTRODUCTION

During the years of independence, large-scale reforms have been carried out in our country in all socio-economic spheres. The main goal of the democratic reforms implemented in the new Uzbekistan on the basis of the Strategy of Action is to take measures from the developed countries of the world in the social, economic and cultural spheres and to make our country one of the most developed countries in all spheres. In this regard, of course, the most important criterion of our reforms is the implementation of areas that are in line with local capabilities. Surkhandarya region, which is the southern pearl of our country, occupies one of the leading positions in the country in terms of socio-economic potential, and the oasis has a worthy place in the development of our country.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Surkhandarya has long been known for its nature, subterranean natural resources, various natural resources and mineral resources. In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirzиеev expressed the following views; Surkhandarya region, with its economic potential, important geographical location and natural resources, is of special importance for the development of our country, "he said [1: 302]. During the years of independence, Surkhandarya region has made great strides in the socio-economic and cultural spheres. In particular, the bulk of oil, gas and coal deposits, as well as the majority of other valuable minerals, fall within the socio-economic potential of the oasis. The Shargun and Baysun coal deposits, which are the largest reserves of the coal industry in Uzbekistan, are located in the Surkhandarya oasis. Thanks to the development of joint ventures, small and medium-sized businesses, iodine, carbide, salt mining, agricultural processing enterprises have appeared in the oasis [2:35]. Large enterprises such as cement production in Jarkurgan district and gas production in Baysun district have been launched [3: 1], creating opportunities for large-scale development.

In the Surkhandarya oasis, the issues of social cooperation in the economic, social and cultural spheres, which have been implemented in the first place, have become important. In particular, since the early days of independence, the establishment of new industrial enterprises in the region, the further improvement of production, the emphasis on attracting foreign investment, the further development of the economy have been identified as important issues. Structural changes in the economy of Surkhandarya region, as in the whole republic, in two ways, that is, first, the technical re-equipment of existing enterprises; secondly, it was implemented through the construction of new enterprises. The establishment of new enterprises, the re-equipment of existing enterprises is aimed at the production of many consumer goods that are necessary for our people. In the early years of independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan, positive changes began to take place in the industry of Surkhandarya region. Surkhandarya region, which was the least developed in the Soviet Union, was one of the least developed in the country in 1990 [4:56]. Therefore, the initial reforms were identified as one of the most important issues, including attention to the socio-demographic situation in the oasis, further improving the socio-economic living standards of the population [5: 409].

In 1990, there were a total of 23 industrial enterprises in Surkhandarya, which produced industrial products worth 1,345 million soums, and supplied the population with industrial products worth 1,011.63 soums per capita. The production of industrial goods decreased by 1.4 million soums, and the production of consumer goods decreased by 2.1 million soums. Eleven enterprises in the region have sharply reduced the level of production of consumer goods. In particular, the Termez meat-packing plant did not produce products worth 6.4 million soums, the Denov oil refinery 1.6 million soums, the Denov winery 1.8 million soums, the regional grain association 1.2 million soums and 11.5 million soums [6: 1]. Specific measures have been taken in the region to address the problems in the industrial sector. Light industry enterprises were equipped with modern machinery and technology, and important work was done in the field of ginning industry [7:42]. In the early years of independence, when communications in the former Soviet Union were severed, supplies were disrupted, and many ginneries suffered from a shortage of spare parts, tools, and equipment. The internal capacity of enterprises was used to solve these problems in a positive way. In 1990, there were 11 ginneries in the region, which

produced 143.5 thousand tons of cotton fiber [8:55]. In 1991, this figure was 145.4 thousand tons. In 1992, the region's light industry enterprises produced 1,247,000 meters of silk fabric, garments worth 99.5 million soums, 20.1 thousand pairs of shoes, 19.2 thousand pieces of knitwear, 5.2 thousand pieces of socks, 2.3 tons of yarn were prepared [9:62]. The free movement of industrial enterprises and the liberalization of prices have depended on the fate of enterprises, the entrepreneurship and business acumen of their leaders and engineers. As a result of the reforms, significant changes in the field of property will be required in the field of industry, as well as economic protection of state-owned enterprises, strengthening their material and technical base, as well as the introduction of state-of-the-art equipment.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Along with the state-owned 11 ginneries in the region, special attention was paid to their re-equipment on a modern basis. The work on equipping cotton gins, one of the leading branches of light industry in Surkhandarya, with new technologies has been accelerated. The volume of fiber production increased by 3.7% compared to 1993, the volume of wool production increased by 108% and 237 thousand tons of cotton fiber was produced. Particular attention was paid to the quality of fiber produced at ginneries. For example, in 1993, 82.5 percent of the tolls met the quality mark requirement, while in 1994 the figure was 94.2 percent [10:15]. It is also important to provide the population of the region with food. In this regard, the largest flour mills, established in 1980 in Shurchi district, play an important role. In 1991, in cooperation with the Russian government, the plant was modernized, and in 1994 the company produced more than 133,000 tons of flour [11:35]. The production of fodder has reached 5,459 tons. The volume of macaroni production increased by one and a half times compared to 1993, and in 1998, under the license of the Swiss company "Buller", new Russian-made machinery and equipment were imported, and the company's six-storey mill was the first in the country to be fully repaired. Equipped with new technologies, the mills, which process 600 tons of grain a day, began to operate automatically. 280 million soums were spent from the public reserve for the repair work [12:82].

In 2003, the joint-stock company "Shurchidon products", which employs about eight hundred employees, engineers and technicians, in 2003 produced more than 3 billion 302.4 million soums. In addition, a total of 9,000 tons of fodder was studied, and more than 6,500 tons of bran products were produced [13:25]. The company has the opportunity to sell its products on the world market, and in May 2003 began to export quality flour products to the neighboring Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. As of August 2003, the company had earned \$ 1 million 21,370 by exporting 8,772 tons of flour. Adapting to the market economy, the company has the opportunity to make a net profit of 110 million soums by producing products in various fields, such as pasta, confectionery, bakery products, garments [14: 302].

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be noted that during the years of independence, the introduction of technical innovations in light industry enterprises in the region, the expansion of economic ties with foreign partners play an important role in further enhancing the economic potential of the region. In particular, due to the large-scale reforms launched by the President in recent years to develop the industry and the economy of the Surkhandarya oasis, the living standards of the population of the oasis are very important.

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