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# Socio-Economic Changes in Uzbekistan during the Years of Independence

#### **Ziyaev Farkhod Sobirovich**

Associate Professor of the Department of Social Sciences of the Tashkent Institute of Finance

#### **Abstract**

This article discusses the economic issues of foreign relations on the example of Surkhandarya, the southern region of Uzbekistan, and the expansion of development ties with the impact of New Uzbekistan on the Surkhandarya oasis. During the years of independence, Surkhandarya has a special place in the economic relations of the country. The region has an abundance of raw materials and borders with Afghanistan.

**Keywords:** Darband Railway, Shargun Coal Mine, Domestic Market, Foreign Market, Boysun Coal Industrial Resource Base, Socio-Economic, Trade, Industrial and Cultural Process.

#### INTRODUCTION

After Uzbekistan gained independence, the necessary resource base was created to ensure the stable and continuous operation of enterprises and sectors of the real economy. As a result of increasing the production of import-substituting products and diversifying industrial production, significant changes were achieved in the structure of exports. Also, strengthening relations with neighboring countries, many foreign relations of the Surkhan oasis in the years of independence in the fields of industry and culture, in particular, in the following years, significant changes took place in the WTO with neighboring countries such as Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The existence of an active foreign trade balance with Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Iran can be evaluated as a positive result in the country's foreign trade. Among the 20 largest partners in foreign economic activity, there is a trade balance with four countries, including Afghanistan (\$772.3 million), Kyrgyzstan (\$610.1 million), Tajikistan (\$307.2 million), Iran (\$33.2 million dollars). In the remaining 16 countries, the passive balance of foreign trade turnover has been preserved. Today, Uzbekistan is establishing trade relations with about 170 countries. The largest volume of foreign trade turnover is the PRC (17.7 percent), the Russian Federation (15.5 percent), Kazakhstan (8.3 percent), the Republic of Korea (5.9 percent), Turkey (5.8 percent), It was with Kyrgyzstan (2.5 percent). Tashkent city has a significant share in the country's foreign trade turnover, which is 34.2 percent or 12.42 billion dollars, and the smallest share is 1.2 percent or 421.7 million dollars, which is higher than Surkhandarya. A third of the volume of the WTO belongs to the CIS, and this indicator has changed little in recent years. Development of trade and economic relations with these countries is underway.

#### DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Despite the measures taken to strengthen cooperation with the CIS countries and comprehensively support foreign trade, the share of the CIS countries in the foreign trade turnover decreased by 2.0% compared to the same period of 2019. In the same period of 2018, in January-December 2020, a decrease of 3.7% was recorded, and their share in foreign trade turnover was 32.6%. In January-

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December 2020, the foreign trade turnover of other countries increased accordingly compared to the same period of 2018-2019 and made up 67.4% of the total foreign trade turnover.

The foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the CIS countries amounted to 11.83 billion dollars, of which export was 4.1 billion dollars and import was 7.73 billion dollars. The largest volume of foreign trade turnover with the CIS countries is the Russian Federation (47.7 percent), Kazakhstan (25.5 percent), Kyrgyzstan (7.6 percent), Turkmenistan (4.5 percent) and Tajikistan (4. 2 percent). On December 11, 2020, the Republic of Uzbekistan received observer status in the Eurasian Economic Union. The foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the European Union amounted to 9.83 billion dollars, of which export was 3.17 billion dollars, import was 6.65 billion dollars. Now let's turn our attention to the foreign trade turnover of Surkhandarya region (January-April 2019). According to the results of January-April 2019, foreign trade turnover in the region amounted to 155,053.1 thousand US dollars, which is 75.4 percent compared to the same period last year. Including, the export volume was 64,008.4 thousand US dollars (42.0 percent growth rate), and the import volume was 91,044.7 thousand dollars. (decreased by 43.3% compared to the same period last year) and the foreign trade balance was minus 27036.3 thousand US dollars. In the following years, as a result of diversifying the industrial structure, supporting exports, increasing the production of import-substituting goods and products, significant changes in the structure of exports were achieved by the government. Further strengthening of foreign trade and cooperation with CIS countries as a result of support measures in our region. The share of CIS countries in foreign trade turnover increased by 29.5% (45,726,200). amounted to US dollars, and the foreign trade turnover was 75.4% compared to the same period last year. The CIS countries with the largest share in foreign trade turnover are Kazakhstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Belarus, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. The export potential of our region is growing as a result of the large-scale reforms implemented in the development of foreign economic activity in our province, as well as the establishment of strong relations with foreign countries.

Also, the creation of a number of tax and customs incentives by our government, the modernization of production and the production of competitive products lay the groundwork for our national products to take a strong place in foreign markets. In this regard, strengthening peace and stability in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is one of the main directions of the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Republic of Uzbekistan has a firm position in this regard, that is, not to interfere in the internal affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, to solve the internal problems of the Afghan people, to strengthen peace and stability in the country.

to create an opportunity, which contributes to the economic development of the country. Based on the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers dated November 13, 2017 No. 911 "On the establishment of the educational center for the training of Afghan citizens under the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan" The Educational Center of Surkhandarya Region was established in Termiz District under the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education for the education of Afghan citizens. The establishment of this center indicates the establishment of long-term friendly relations between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan. In addition, the situation in Afghanistan has been raised to the highest level by the Republic of Uzbekistan within the framework of the SCO, in particular, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. In his speech at the SCO summit on November 10, 2020, Mirziyoyev specifically mentioned this aspect. In his speech, the head of our state emphasized the importance of not missing the historical opportunity to achieve the long-awaited peace in Afghanistan, and emphasized the need to consider the issue of security and peace in this country as an important component of stability and economic development. Development of the SCO region., stressed the importance of consolidating efforts to support positive efforts to provide economic assistance to the people of Afghanistan. The President also touched on other issues related to the Afghanistan problem at the international conference "Central and South Asia: Regional Interdependence: Threats and Opportunities" held in Tashkent in April 2021. It is known that a wide range of export services are being provided in our country within the framework of the implementation of a number of decrees,



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practical programs and assignments of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at increasing the export potential.

Recently, the joint-stock company "Uzbekistan Railways" implemented a project to export 300 tons of coal mined at the enterprises of "Shargun komir" and "Boysun komir" LLC to the Republic of Pakistan "on an experimental basis". increased. The first batch was sent from Darband railway station (Surkhandarya region). It is worth noting that from 2018 to this day, the "Shargunkomir" joint-stock company has carried out large-scale works. In particular, the volume of coal mining is growing every year, and the process of mining underground mines is accelerating. The social environment in Surkhandarya region is improving, and "Shargunkomir" joint-stock company is making a significant contribution to the development of the coal industry of our country. Currently, the enterprise produces high-calorie SSKOM, SSSSHMO, SSSSH and TR coals.

In accordance with the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 10, 2016 "On measures to implement the investment project for the construction of a cement plant in Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region" No. PQ-2628, all indicators of plant construction are defined according to According to the decision, the specialists of the Turkish company "Dal Teknik Makina ve Tijarat Sanayi" were entrusted with the construction of the technological part of the plant. This project is the second plant successfully implemented by the Olmaliq Mining and Metallurgical Combine. The enterprise, which was originally established in Zafarabad district of Jizzakh region, was modernized and started production of 350 thousand tons of white cement and 760 thousand tons of portland cement per year.

This plant launched in the city of Jizzakh is the first successful project for the production of high-quality cement with a whiteness of not less than 85 units and a capacity of 500 kg/cm2 in the Commonwealth of Independent States. According to the project launched in Sherabad district (as a result of appropriation of 212.8 million dollars) 1 mln. Production of 500,000 tons of high-quality portland cement will be launched and 1,200 new jobs will be created. One of the biggest achievements of this project is the production of 708 million tons of cement, which is the largest in our country, including 530 million tons of cement. tons of limestone and 178 mln. tons of soil (clay) is located in Sherabad district. Also, the geographic location of Surkhondarya region makes it possible to find buyers not only in the domestic market, but also in the foreign market for cement products needed for large-scale construction works carried out not only in our country, but also in neighboring countries. Republic of Afghanistan. In short, the launch of this project is one of the first results of the economic reforms successfully implemented by the head of our country.

#### **CONCLUSION**

As a result of effective mechanisms and specific measures implemented in all sectors of the economy in the past two years, we are witnessing such a series of modern projects not only in Surkhandarya region, but also in all regions of our country. As a result of the commissioning of this modern industrial enterprise in a short period of time, 1200 citizens of our country will be provided with work, Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region, and the budget of the republic will increase significantly. The export potential of the province will expand, which will allow a sharp reduction in the import of cement products. This will also serve to reduce and stabilize the price of cement in the country. Cement products, which are the main construction material produced in this new enterprise, will soon become modern social facilities and non-residential areas in Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region and neighboring areas.

and it is used in the construction of comfortable and convenient houses for the population. countries serves quality construction. The social environment in Surkhandarya region is improving, and "Shargunkomir" joint-stock company is making a significant contribution to the development of the coal industry of our country. The development of the coal industry not only contributes to the development of several industries in the country, but also contributes to the employment of some sections of the population. It is no exaggeration to say that this, in turn, contributes to the growth of the social and economic sphere.

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