



Agriculture Changes During the Years of Independence in Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT

Following article deals with the changes in agriculture during the years of independence in Uzbekistan. The abolition of the cotton monopoly, the laws adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers on agriculture and land, and the works carried out within the framework of the decrees, decisions and orders of our president on agriculture are given as well.

Keywords:

agriculture, irrigation, calendar, agrarian sector, market economy, export, import, varieties of cotton, intensive garden, credit.

Introduction. The rich history of our ancient Uzbekistan goes back to thousands of years. The ancient scientific and historical traditions formed in our country testify to the fact that three thousand years ago, unique irrigation facilities were built in our holy land, a high farming culture based on artificial irrigation. According to Beruni opinion, the ancient Khorezm people had their own calendar system based on the need for periodic planning of agricultural work, and a great ancestor Al Farghani created a nilometer for Arab farmers to measure the level of the Nile River.

During the colonial years, the national economy of Uzbekistan was developed unilaterally. Thus, the main attention was paid to the cultivation of cotton in agriculture, and the primary processing of the gross cotton harvest in industry. Other important sectors of the republic's industry were also developed in accordance with the development of the cotton complex.

Materials And Methods. Our country has great potential in agriculture. A lot of issues are being done on the development of this direction. We can see that our markets are full, our people's sustenance is abundant, and people can earn

additional income from exports. But many years ago, insufficient attention was paid to the agricultural sector. There was no market economy, no attitude to the land, no self-interest. Funds, scientific innovations were not involved. As a result, the land became exhausted and productivity decreased. A system for processing the product and obtaining additional value has not been created. After Uzbekistan gained independence, great changes took place in all areas. In particular, a period of fundamental changes has begun in agriculture. At the first stage of the market economy (1991-1994), laws on economic reforms were adopted, and its legal basis was created. Since 1995, Uzbekistan has entered the second stage of social reform.¹ This stage is intended to complete the formation of structures for the transition to market relations, comprehensive development of the country's national economy, stabilization of the national currency, and reorientation of the economy from the production of raw materials to the production of finished products. Also, in the above-mentioned second stage of economic reforms, stabilization of the economy and ensuring the growth of sectors of the national economy, making changes in production according to the needs of

the population according to their needs, and other vital issues in the national economy a number of structural changes took place. In particular, the country gives priority in its economic policy to the production of goods that can replace imports in industry, the leading sector of the national economy: ensuring the independence of oil products, grain, and increasing the production of exportable goods.

In recent years, systematic work has been carried out in the republic to effectively use the areas allocated to farmers and homestead land owners, to protect their rights and legal interests, and to increase the employment and living standards of the rural population. The Law "On Peasant Farms" was adopted on April 30, 1998 and serves as a legal basis for their development. The monopoly of cotton in agriculture was ended. The farmer's ability to show his potential, as well as the freedom to own land began to show results. Effective use of farm lands, strengthening of the material and technical base, further expansion of activities and increasing the level of coverage of population farms with services, as well as opportunities for exporting products have been increased. According to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers in 2004, the "Republican Center of Cotton Seeding" was established under the ministry.² As a result of the development of the farming movement, more than 160,000 farms were formed in the country in the following years, and today they are operating effectively in more than 10,000 areas. If we pay attention to the following numbers, more than 12,000 farm managers are young people under the age of 30, and more than 6,000 farms are managed by our women. In our country, all costs of irrigation and reclamation activities are fully covered by the state budget. This is an important factor in obtaining abundant harvests from agricultural crops. Privatization of land is the first and most important stage of the transition of Uzbekistan's agriculture to market relations. It is impossible to implement modern production, high yield and high-quality products in agriculture without restoring market relations in this area. Market relations develop only when the producer, for example, the farmer is free in his

labor activity and is the real owner of the land. 65 million dollars were allocated from the state budget for the expansion of intensive garden areas to the produced product, which is the most important means of production in agriculture. In particular, it is planned to create new intensive gardens on an area of 500 hectares in Tashkent region, 300 hectares in Andijan, Bukhara and Samarkand, and 200 hectares in Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya.³

Results and Discussions. On August 25, 2017, at the initiative of our president, the law "On establishing the day of agricultural workers of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted and it was set as the second Sunday of December every year. In order to develop another important area of beekeeping, the Uzbek beekeepers' union was established and more than 14,000 entrepreneurs who grow honey joined it. "Uzbek Fish Industry Association" was established in 2017 in order to restore another sector - fishing, which has been neglected in the last 20 years. 3,600 fisheries were included in its system. The implementation of the above reforms will allow strengthening the financial situation of agricultural producers, encouraging the efficient use of land, including the increase of fruit and vegetable and fodder crops. This, in turn, allows to increase the total volume of agricultural production and the export potential of the agricultural sector.

In addition, the President's Decree № PF-5853 of October 23, 2019 "On confirmation of the strategy of agricultural development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030" was adopted, and from September 1, 2021 providing compensation for interest costs from the funds of the state fund for the support of business activities on loans from commercial banks allocated to the producers of agricultural products for the purchase of seeds and seedlings of certified agricultural crops were done. As of March 1, 2021, the term of loans allocated to the population for the development of horticulture, viticulture and lemon growing within the framework of the "Every family-entrepreneur" program has been extended from 3 to 7 years. The cultivation of vegetables, potatoes and potatoes, legumes, oilseeds, fruit

and vine seedlings was organized on the land plots of scientific institutions within the National Center of Knowledge and Innovations in Agriculture with the involvement of business entities on the basis of contracts.

It is an important branch of the republic's economy it provides the population with food and is very important in improving their material well-being. The country's agriculture is intensively developed, and the specialization that has raised the mechanized farming culture to a high level has been established and deepened within the internal geographical regions. However, the motto of the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan "the main cotton base of the country of Uzbekistan" was in practice. That is, there was only one distant branch in agriculture. It was cotton.

Now, an important sector of the national economy of independent Uzbekistan is experiencing the difficulties of unilateral action in agriculture. The fact that half of the soil of agricultural lands has become saline, the success of agrotechnical activities in fields other than cotton in the culture of farming, that is, difficulties in providing the population with primary agricultural products (primarily grain and flour) are the complications of cotton monopoly. The mentioned objective situations will be thoroughly analyzed by the government of the Republic, agriculture and its network structure will be reconsidered. Cotton monopolies were put an end to, and main attention was paid to the industry that serves to satisfy the primary needs of the population (and primarily wheat production).

At the moment, Uzbekistan's agriculture is multi-sectoral, including cotton farming, grain farming, sugarcane farming, fruit growing, viticulture, vegetable and fruit growing, cattle breeding, sheep farming, poultry farming, sheep farming, beekeeping, and cocooning. This industry includes wheat farming, barley farming, corn farming, cattle breeding in livestock breeding, sheep breeding and so on.⁴

Conclusion. We are witnessing that our farmers and peasants are the main force in agriculture, and they are doing incomparable work to improve the development of not only this sector,

but also the entire country, raise the standard of living of our people, and make our country prosperous and flourishing in all aspects. We can see that reforms in every field are carried out in our country, such as the formation of the legal culture of the population, the honoring of their authority in the society and the public, and the protection and appreciation of work and courage in the path of peace, and they are serving for the prosperity of the country.

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