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Factors For Poverty Reduction And Strengthening Social Protection In Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT

The article reveals the essence of the concept of social protection and analyzes the activities of the social protection system in our country during the years of independence. The content of reforms aimed at reducing poverty in the Republic of Uzbekistan is highlighted. Strategic directions for poverty reduction have been explored.

KEYWORDS

Poverty, social protection, assistance, program, social insurance, social system.

INTRODUCTION

It is known that the Republic of Uzbekistan from the first years of its independence has pursued a state policy aimed at strong social protection. Generally, the population in need of social protection means families and their members who earn less than the established norm at the expense of one family member. However, according to the norms accepted in the world practice, the population in need of social protection means, firstly, earning less than the established norm at the expense of one family member and secondly, for some

objective and subjective reasons, deprived of temporary income or temporarily members of the community are understood. The sages have always emphasized that social protection at the national level has an impact not only on the economy or culture but also on spirituality and faith. Any protection is good, any good is protection.

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MATERIALS AND METHODS

Social protection of the population - public authorities and governing bodies, non-governmental and non-profit organizations; is a system of legal, economic measures and guarantees implemented by specialized institutions, employers and individuals, aimed at preventing and eliminating the social vulnerability of the population.

It is known that social protection of the population in our country is carried out in the following forms:

- Social support a set of measures aimed at improving the living standards of vulnerable groups, including social security, medical and social assistance, social services, rehabilitation.
- Social assistance regular or one-time cash benefits or non-discriminatory financial assistance to meet the basic needs of the population in need of social protection.
- 3. Social benefits measures for the use of social services for vulnerable groups, including the provision of such services free of charge and the reduction of mandatory payments and fees, including tax rates.
- 4. Social services types of services provided by socially vulnerable groups, specialized institutions.
- 5. Social services paid or free services provided by social infrastructure facilities for social support of the population, institutions specializing in social protection of the population and citizens' self-government bodies.
- 6. Social insurance is carried out in the form of social protection of the

economically active population from the risk of loss of income, employment as a result of loss of ability to work or employment.

Social protection is provided to the vulnerable through pensions, benefits, benefits, services and irregular financial assistance. It should be noted that the socially vulnerable groups include:

- People with disabilities;
- Victims of man-made and medical disasters, catastrophes and military and interethnic conflicts;
- Men and women over 65 years of age without work experience, as well as lonely elderly citizens in need of assistance;
- Low-income families and families with minor children;
- Orphans and children left without parental care;
- Persons suffering from socially significant diseases;
- Mothers or surrogate mothers from lowincome families who are engaged in caring for a child under the age of 2;
- Families who have lost their breadwinners, widows raising minor children;
- Citizens officially registered as "unemployed" [4-9].

It should be noted that for the first time in the history of Uzbekistan, the issue of poverty was raised on January 24, 2020, in the address of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Oliy Majlis, and this topic became the main agenda of socio-economic policy [1].

Poverty reduction should be aimed at awakening the entrepreneurial spirit in the population, the full realization of the inner

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strength and potential of man, implementation of a comprehensive economic and social policy to create new jobs. The main strategic directions of poverty reduction have been introduced in our country. These are:

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First, the institutional framework for poverty reduction has been established. In this regard, the Ministry and a research centre have been established to conduct research in this area. It should be noted that in cooperation with international organizations (UNDP, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, UNICEF, etc.), financial institutions (World Bank, Asian Development Bank) and research centres of countries with advanced experience in this field (China International Center for Poverty Reduction) contacts have been established. The foreign experience was analyzed.

Second, the state policy on material and intangible support of the needy population in the context of a pandemic has been implemented. Together with four local sectors: mahalla authorities, members of the general public and deputies, a list of poor and needy families - the "Iron Book" system was established [10-13].

The sahovat.argos.uz program has been launched to register families with aggravated social and living conditions. The "Temporary Procedure" for creating a source of income for families by providing employment for ablebodied unemployed was approved. This list is based on the following criteria:

- The presence in the family of disabled and chronically ill members;
- The family consists of single elderly, widows and low-income people in need of care;

- Families with five or more children;
- Families who have lost their source of income as a result of quarantine measures imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic, but have not been included in the "iron book";
- The family is really needy, helpless and in need of financial support.

As a logical continuation of the implementation of the state policy on poverty reduction in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan PF-5975 dated 26.03.2020 "On measures to radically modernize the state policy on development economic and poverty reduction" was adopted development of programs and mechanisms has been identified [2].

It should be noted that the Decree provides for the development and implementation of criteria and assessment methods, minimum standards and regulatory framework for social security, taking into account foreign experience. In order to ensure implementation of the decree, the living conditions and social status of each household and family in all mahallas of the country were studied. On this basis, the passports of the first mahallas were formed. This segment of the population was divided into groups that could increase their incomes, and an action plan was developed. The reorganization of the Ministry of Economy and Industry of Uzbekistan as the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction is a policy aimed at reducing poverty and improving the welfare of the population. The tasks of the Ministry are as follows:

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- Development and implementation of macroeconomic policy;
- Poverty reduction;
- Socio-economic development of the regions;
- Business development;
- Development of advanced industries and implementation of a single industrial policy;
- Reform of state-owned enterprises;
- Development and implementation of state investment policy;
- Implementation of urban development policy for infrastructure development;
- Improving the business environment and the country's position in international rankings;
- Strengthening economic ties with the world community.

In 2020 alone, 100 billion soums have been allocated to finance poverty reduction measures. A program has been developed to attract low-income, unemployed people, women and youth to entrepreneurship and increase their labour activity. A program to reduce poverty in Uzbekistan has been developed jointly with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Program, and \$ 700 million has been allocated for its implementation.

Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan PF-5634 dated 17.02.2021 on the approval of the "Concept of the National Strategy for Social Protection in 2021-2030" was adopted [3].

According to the Concept, assistance to children who do not have access to basic food, education, care and other necessary products and services; providing guaranteed incomes to

able-bodied citizens who are unable to fully address self-sufficiency issues due to illness, unemployment, motherhood and disability; providing elderly citizens with guaranteed income; measures for the introduction of the social insurance system have been identified.

At the same time, within the framework of the concept it is planned to implement the following measures:

- Appointment of a single body responsible for the implementation of state policy in the field of social protection;
- Involvement and subsidization of private hospitals for the provision of primary and specialized medical care in remote and remote areas and screening and treatment activities for the needy population;
- Introduce a procedure for the purchase of housing by local governments to provide housing for orphans, homeless and disadvantaged families and individuals without property rights;
- Provide subsidies for the purchase of equipment and tools for the unemployed, especially those included in the "Iron Book", "Women's Book" and "Youth Book" who want to start a business and self-employment;
- Organizing the activities of the Children's Ombudsman, while maintaining a unified national system of protection of human rights in bringing the effectiveness of the protection of the rights and interests of children to a new level;

Introduce a home-based preschool education model for children with disabilities.

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Expenditures of the state budget on social protection have increased from 1% of GDP in 2019 to 1.5% in 2030.

CONCLUSION

It should be noted that a group of leading experts from the International Labor Organization, UNICEF, UNDP and the World Bank participated in the development of the draft National Strategy for Social Protection until 2030. The adoption of the National Strategy for Social Protection is invaluable in helping the UN Sustainable Development Goals reduce poverty, strengthen social protection and achieve full, useful and decent employment for women, men, including youth and people with disabilities.

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